

APPENDIX D - PERTINENT CORRESPONDENCE

Planning Division
Environmental Branch

AUG 15 2002

Mr. Andreas Mager, Jr.
Assistant Regional Administrator
Habitat Conservation Division
National Marine Fisheries Service
9721 Executive Center Drive North
St. Petersburg, Florida 33702

Dear Mr. Mager:

This references the proposed test fill at Miami Beach, Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project, using a domestic upland sand source and your letter dated June 21, 2002, providing Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Conservation Recommendations. This letter serves as our response under Section 305(b)(4) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSFCMA).

A mitigation plan for providing in-kind compensation for the unavoidable adverse impacts to hardbottom resources resulting from the placement of the discharge pipeline across the first reef will be developed by the Miami-Dade Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM). The mitigation plan will be essentially the same as the one developed and approved for Modifications to the Sunny Isles Segment and the beach renourishment at Miami Beach in the vicinity of 63rd Street, which occurred earlier this year. A copy of that mitigation plan is enclosed for your information.

The same type of prefabricated reef modules used for mitigating past pipeline impacts would be used for this project. The modules would be composed of pre-cast concrete culverts set in a high-pressure concrete base, with 6-12 inch limerock grouted onto the exterior surfaces of the culverts. The overall size of the module would be approximately 6 ft (1.83 m) wide by 9 ft (2.74 m) long and 4 ft (1.22 m) high. Adding the culverts and limerocks to the surface substantially increases the surface area of the module. The footprint of each module would be 54 ft² (5 m²). However, the total surface area available for colonization has been conservatively estimated by DERM to be 30 m², which provides a greater than 6:1 surface area-to-footprint ratio.

The proposed mitigation would create an artificial reef using the reef modules at a creation-to-impact ratio of 1 to 1, based on the footprint of the module (i.e., 1 module per 5 m² impact). We agree that the temporal loss of benthic habitat should be considered in the mitigation. However, we believe that the increased surface area

provided by the grouted limerock will more than compensate for any temporal loss of habitat and that any additional assessment by a Habitat Equivalency Analysis would not be necessary.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Mr. Mike Dupes at 904-232-1689 or email at michael.dupes@saj02.usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

James C. Duck
Chief, Planning Division

Enclosure

Copies Furnished: -

Mr. David H. Rackly, National Marine Fisheries Service, 219 Fort Johnson Road,
Charleston, South Carolina 29412-9110

Mr. Michael Johnson, National Marine Fisheries Service, 11420 North Kendall Drive,
Miami, Florida 33176

Mr. Steve Blair, Dade County Department of Environmental Resources Management,
33 SW 2nd Avenue, Suite 1000, Miami, Florida 33130

**MITIGATION PLAN FOR PLACEMENT OF DREDGE SLURRY PIPELINES
ON HARDGROUND AREAS IN ASSOCIATION WITH CONSTRUCTION OF
THE "MODIFICATIONS TO SUNNY ISLES SEGMENT AND BEACH
RENOURISHMENT AT MIAMI BEACH"**

**Ref: Florida Department of Environmental Protection Permit No.: 0126527-002-JC
and**

US Army Corps of Engineers (Jacksonville, FL) RFP No.: DACW17-00-R-0025

I. BACKGROUND

The US Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE), Jacksonville District has received the above referenced Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) permit to renourish 2.75 miles of the Sunny Isles Beach in Miami-Dade County. Additionally, the ACOE has submitted a request to modify the permit and include an additional 2,500 feet of beach along northern Miami Beach, and establish a second pipeline corridor at the south end of the Sunny Isles segment. Although the above referenced permit covers only the Sunny Isles segment is approved, the present mitigation plan considers the additional impacts associated with the conduct of the additional Miami Beach segment (as identified in the submitted modification request).

The renourishment will be accomplished using a hopper dredge, which would collect sand from approved borrow areas and pump the sand slurry to the beach via a submerged pipeline. Due to draft restrictions of the vessel and the topography of the ocean floor off the work areas, the dredge will be restricted to areas seaward of the eastern edge of the first reef. Thus, the submerged slurry pipeline would have to be placed across the hardground areas locally known as "first reef". The FDEP Permit provides for placement of the pipeline within a defined 50 ft. wide corridor across the reef areas. The modification presently under consideration requests a separate corridor for the Miami Beach segment, and an additional corridor at the southern end of the Sunny Isles segment. If the second corridor (south end of Sunny Isles) is approved and utilized, the amount of mitigation will be modified accordingly, using the methods detailed for determination impacts within the corridors. The considerations and mitigation discussion below is based on the use of one corridor per segment.

Preliminary impact assessments have been conducted by Miami-Dade Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM) and submitted to the state. Based on these estimates up to 306m² of benthic impact is possible within the Sunny Isles pipeline corridor, and up to 400m² of benthic impact is possible within the proposed northern Miami Beach pipeline corridor. Post-pipeline removal assessments associated with previous similar pipeline placements have shown the actual (documented) impacts to be range between 20% and 80% of pre-project estimates. In consideration of the range of actual documented impacts, it is expected that between 141 m² and 565 m² of benthic impacts will be associated with the pipeline placements necessary for this project.

Enclosure

II. MITIGATION CONSIDERATIONS:

Mitigation for impacts associated with this project would have two components: (A) salvage (collection and re-stabilization) of dislodged and or fractured hard corals, and (B) "In-kind" mitigation by creation of benthic habitat through the placement of designed artificial reef modules.

A. Hard Coral Salvage and Stabilization. The salvaging and re-stabilization of hard corals would occur immediately after placement of the pipeline.

1. Early identification and isolation of impacted hard coral colonies or hard coral colonies in jeopardy (shaded by or directly under the path of the pipeline) is imperative. This work should be completed as soon as possible (within two weeks) following placement of the pipeline.
2. Relocation areas will be identified into which fractured and dislodged corals will be placed. This will facilitate tracking the survivorship of the relocated corals.
3. Corals will be relocated as close as possible to the location they were taken from.
4. Corals need to be re-stabilized using proven techniques and adhesives. The methods established and utilized by NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Restoration and Assessment Program (H. Hudson, pers. comm.) will be followed.

B. In-Kind Mitigation. Considerations for mitigation material includes:

1. Relief of mitigation material should be relatively low to approximate the relief of the impacted habitat.
2. Materials should provide habitat for a wide variety of fish, invertebrate (both motile and benthic) organisms
3. Mitigation should be constructed of materials similar to that of the impacted habitat (i.e., limestone or carbonate based).
4. Materials should be placed in as close a proximity to the impacted areas as possible.

III. MITIGATION COMPONENTS

Two materials would satisfy the considerations for materials and mitigation outlined above:

1. Limerock boulder, and
2. Prefabricated modules composed of pre-cast concrete culverts set in a high-pressure concrete base, and 6-12 inch limerock grouted to the exterior surfaces of the culverts.

We propose utilization of the prefabricated modules for the mitigation, leaving the limerock as an alternative, should the Department so desire to utilize it. If limerock were to be used, it would have to be multi-layered to achieve an intricate habitat appropriate for the mitigation. Multiple layers of limerock, however, would not allow the maintenance of "low relief" mitigation. The use of the prefabricated module was selected as they provide a much more highly complex benthic habitat than limerock boulders, while maintaining a relatively low relief (<5'). This module is favorable for colonization by a broad spectrum of benthic and motile invertebrates and algae, and

utilization by benthic and demersal fish. The modules (Figure 4) are modification of a design used in previous hard-ground impact mitigation programs (i.e., Sunny Isles Reef Restoration Off-site mitigation; Port of Miami dredge anchor impact mitigation, Bal Harbor sediment impact mitigation, and previous beach renourishment pipeline corridor impact mitigation). Additionally, the design of the module can easily be modified to enhance or minimize specific features (i.e., height, surface area, cryptic space) through varying of the number and size of the culvert pipes used in the construction of the units.

The proposed module overall size will be 6 ft (1.83m) wide by 9 ft (2.74m) long and 4 ft (1.22m) high. The area proposed for placement (see below) would provide for approximately 0.5 feet (0.15m) of settling, creating a habitat with approximately 3.5 ft relief. The design of the module will utilize a single layer of culvert pipes to minimize relief. The addition of the limerocks to the surface substantially increases the surface area of the module. The footprint area of each 6x9 ft. module is 54 ft² (5 m²). The total surface of the module available for colonization is conservatively estimated to be 30 m², which provides a greater than 6:1 surface area-to-footprint ratio. The module design will be evaluated for stability in the water depth and area selected for placement. The weight of the module will be adjusted as necessary to insure appropriate stability.

IV. IN-KIND MITIGATION SITES

There are 11 designated offshore artificial reef sites in Dade County. The closest and preferred reef site, with depths comparable to those found in and around the first reef areas, is the "Anchorage Site" (center point - 25°48'43.5"; 80°05'35.5"; depth range 30 to 55 ft.), located approximately 7 miles south of the Sunny Isles segment and 3 miles south of the Miami Beach Section. The next best location is the "Port of Miami Mitigation Site - A", which is approximately 2 miles further south, with a water depth of 25 feet.

V. CALCULATION OF MITIGATION

The amount of impact within the corridor will be controlled by a number of factors: (i.e., need of repair or re-positioning of the pipeline which requires lifting and replacement; impact by accessory equipment [i.e., marker buoys]; the ability of the pipeline 'collars' to hold the portions of the pipeline off the reef; irregularities of the bottom assisting in holding the pipeline off the reef; and utilization of floating lines or cable motion dampeners on needed marking or lifting buoys to minimize impacts to areas adjacent to pipeline). The varied factors that can effect the amount of area impacted, and past assessments of pipeline impacts indicate actual impact will be less than estimated in the pre-project assessments. Therefore the area of impact, and subsequently, the area of mitigation will be determined by post-pipeline removal assessments.

Impact Assessment Methodology. The impact will be assessed by DERM biologists with experience in identification and evaluation of benthic impacts. Biologists will visually inspect the entire pipeline path to identify and quantify the area and amount (degree) of impact to benthic communities. Such methods will include measurement of all areas of

scarification, denudation, crushing or other modified bottom characteristics attributable to the pipeline and or accessory equipment. The degree of impact will be estimated on a scale of 0-25%, 25-50%, 50-75%, 75-100% and 100%. The actual area of impact will be the product of the measured area and the decimal equivalent of the 'mid-point' of the level of impact. The area requiring mitigation will be the sum of those products, plus the overall area of hard corals impacted (i.e., crushed, fractured, scraped or dislodged).

Mitigation Ratio Considerations. It is requested that the following considerations be taken into account in the determination of the required mitigation:

1. The project is being conducted in the interest of public health and safety (protection of property and life from storms, hurricanes and coastal flooding)
2. Physical alterations to the hardground will be minimal. Past pipeline placements indicate disturbance to the bottom from the pipeline will be significantly less than estimated in the pre-project assessment.
3. The region the pipeline traverses is dominated by sponges, algae and moderate sized soft corals, which have a relatively short recovery time (2-8 years).
4. Each module placed will provide a minimum of 30 m² of new benthic surface area of colonization and utilization by marine organisms.

Estimated Mitigation Requirement. In consideration of the points stated above, it is proposed to place one 5m² prefabricated module for every 5m² of benthic impact documented during the post-pipeline removal. Additionally, the habitat benefits of the modules can be enhanced through appropriate placement of the modules. Modules placed in proximity to each other, allow for interaction of the motile organisms, and can effectively function as a single unit, enhancing the effectiveness of the reef modules.

Based on the pre-project assessments, and in consideration of the range of actual impact levels documented, the projected impact associated with the two pipeline corridors will be between 141m² and 565m². This would require between 28.2 and 113 modules for mitigation, with the proposed mitigation requirement (i.e., 1 module per 5m² impact). It should be noted that the actual amount of mitigation will be based on the documented impacts within the pipeline, and may be more or less from the estimates given above.



Jeb Bush
Governor

Department of Environmental Protection

Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, MS 47
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000

David B. Struhs
Secretary

August 2, 2002

Mr. James C. Duck
Chief, Planning Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Jacksonville District
Post Office Box 4970
Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019

RE: Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers, Draft Environmental Assessment, Test Fill at Miami Beach, Using an Upland Sand Source, Miami-Dade County

SAI: FL200205242077C

Dear Mr. Duck:

The Florida State Clearinghouse, pursuant to Executive Order 12372, Gubernatorial Executive Order 95-359, the Coastal Zone Management Act, 16 U.S.C. §§ 1451-1464, as amended, and the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 4321, 4331-4335, 4341-4347, as amended, has coordinated the review of the above-referenced Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed project.

The project will require a permit from the DEP Office of Beaches and Coastal Systems (BCS) and the final consistency of the project will be determined during the permitting process. The BCS will be analyzing the properties of the off-site upland sand material and determining its compatibility with existing beach sand, and its suitability for use, prior to authorizing this particular source of material. The Department will also be analyzing the material for potential contamination prior to use.

Because of the potential movement and downdrift erosion, the South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC) recommends that this dynamic situation be monitored on a region-wide basis to ensure that wildlife habitat and the stability of the renourished areas are maintained. The SFRPC also recommends that impacts to the natural systems be minimized to the greatest extent feasible, and that the permitting agency determine the extent of sensitive marine life and vegetative communities in the vicinity of the project with subsequent protection and mitigation of any disturbed habitat.

Based on the information contained in the Draft Environmental Assessment, and the comments provided by our reviewing agencies, as summarized above and enclosed, the state has determined that, at this stage, the above-referenced project is consistent with the Florida Coastal Management Program (FCMP). All subsequent environmental documents prepared for this project must be reviewed to determine the project's continued consistency with the FCMP. The state's

"More Protection, Less Process"

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Mr. James C. Duck
August 2, 2002
Page 2

continued concurrence with the project will be based, in part, on the adequate resolution of issues identified during this and subsequent reviews.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this project. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Mr. Robert W. Hall at (850) 487-2231.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sally B. Mann".

Sally B. Mann, Director
Office of Intergovernmental Programs

SBM/rwh
Enclosures
cc Natalie R. Sanbe SFRPC

South
Florida
Regional
Planning
Council



RECEIVED
JUN 17 2002

June 11, 2002

State of Florida Clearinghouse

Ms. Cindy Cranick
Florida State Clearinghouse
Department of Community Affairs
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

RE: SFRPC #02-0603, SAI #FL200205242077C - Request for comments on the Draft Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Test Fill at Miami Beach using a domestic upland sand source, US Department of the Army, City of Miami Beach, Miami-Dade County.

Dear Ms. Cranick:

We have reviewed the above-referenced project and have the following comments:

- Beaches and dune systems are identified as natural resources of regional significance in the *Strategic Regional Policy Plan for South Florida*. The use of groins and other hard coastal protection structures may adversely impact benthic resources and deprive downdrift shorelines of sand. Staff supports the use of buffer zones to protect these important resources. Sand movement and downdrift erosion should be monitored on a region wide basis to ensure the livelihood of wildlife habitats and the stability of renourished areas. All actions should be consistent with the goals and policies of the City of Miami Beach comprehensive plan.
- Staff recommends that, if the proposed actions are implemented, 1) impacts to the natural systems be minimized to the greatest extent feasible and 2) the permit grantor determine the extent of sensitive marine life and vegetative communities in the vicinity of each project and require protection and or mitigation of disturbed habitat. These guidelines will assist in reducing the cumulative impacts to native plants and animals, wetlands and deep water habitat and fisheries that the goals and policies of the *Strategic Regional Policy Plan for South Florida* seek to protect.
- The goals and policies of the *Strategic Regional Policy Plan for South Florida*, in particular those indicated below, should be observed when making decisions regarding this project.

Strategic Regional Goal

- 3.4 Improve the protection of upland habitat areas and maximize the interrelationships between the wetland and upland components of the natural system.

Regional Policies

- 3.4.4 Require the use of ecological studies and site and species specific surveys in projects that may impact natural habitat areas to ensure that rare and state and federally listed plants and wildlife are identified with respect to temporal and spatial distribution.

- 3.4.5 Identify and protect the habitats of rare and state and federally listed species. For those rare and threatened species that have been scientifically demonstrated by past or site specific studies to be relocated successfully, without resulting in harm to the relocated or receiving populations, and where *in-situ* preservation is neither possible nor desirable from an ecological perspective, identify suitable receptor sites, guaranteed to be preserved and managed in perpetuity for the protection of the relocated species that will be utilized for the relocation of such rare or listed plants and animals made necessary by unavoidable project impacts. Consistent use of the site by endangered species, or documented endangered species habitat on-site shall be preserved on-site.
- 3.4.8 Remove invasive exotics from all Natural Resources of Regional Significance and associated buffer areas. Require the continued regular and periodic maintenance of areas that have had invasive exotics removed.
- 3.4.9 Required maintenance shall insure that re-establishment of the invasive exotic does not occur.

Strategic Regional Goal

- 3.8 Enhance and preserve natural system values of South Florida's shorelines, estuaries, benthic communities, fisheries, and associated habitats, including but not limited to, Florida Bay, Biscayne Bay and the coral reef tract.

Regional Policies

- 3.8.1 Enhance and preserve natural shoreline characteristics through requirements resulting from the review of proposed projects and in the implementation of ICE, including but not limited to, mangroves, beaches and dunes through prohibition of structural shoreline stabilization methods except to protect existing navigation channels, maintain reasonable riparian access, or allow an activity in the public interest as determined by applicable state and federal permitting criteria.
- 3.8.2 Enhance and preserve benthic communities, including but not limited to seagrass and shellfish beds, and coral habitats, by allowing only that dredge and fill activity, artificial shading of habitat areas, or destruction from boats that is the least amount practicable, and by encouraging permanent mooring facilities. Dredge and fill activities may occur on submerged lands in the Florida Keys only as permitted by the Monroe County Land Development Regulations. It must be demonstrated pursuant to the review of the proposed project features that the activities included in the proposed project do not cause permanent, adverse natural system impacts.
- 3.8.3 As a result of proposed project reviews, include conditions that result in a project that enhances and preserves marine and estuarine water quality by:
 - a) improving the timing and quality of freshwater inflows;
 - b) reducing turbidity, nutrient loading and bacterial loading from wastewater facilities and vessels;
 - c) reducing the number of improperly maintained stormwater systems; and
 - d) requiring port facilities and marinas to implement hazardous materials spill plans.

- 3.8.4 Enhance and preserve commercial and sports fisheries through monitoring, research, best management practices for fish harvesting and protection of nursery habitat and include the resulting information in educational programs throughout the region. Identified nursery habitat shall be protected through the inclusion of suitable habitat protective features including, but not limited to:
- a) avoidance of project impacts within habitat area;
 - b) replacement of habitat area impacted by proposed project; or
 - c) improvement of remaining habitat area within remainder of proposed project area.
- 3.8.5 Enhance and preserve habitat for endangered and threatened marine species by the preservation of identified endangered species habitat and populations. For threatened species or species of critical concern, on-site preservation will be required unless it is demonstrated that off-site mitigation will not adversely impact the viability or number of individuals of the species.
- Council staff generally agrees that the proposal will benefit the South Florida region and will further our goals for a more livable, sustainable, and competitive South Florida. The program, as proposed, is generally consistent with the *Strategic Regional Plan for South Florida (SRPP)*.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. We would appreciate being kept informed on the progress of this project. Please do not hesitate to call if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely,



Natalie R. Sanbe
Senior Planner

NRS/th

cc: Jean Evoy, Director, Miami-Dade County DERM
Jorge Gomez, Planning Director, City of Miami Beach
Jasmin Raffington, Florida Coastal Management Program



Jeb Bush
Governor

Department of Environmental Protection

Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000

June 24, 2002

David B. Struhs
Secretary

Ms. Jasmin Raffington
Florida State Clearinghouse
Department of Community Affairs
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2100

Re: Department of the Army, Corps Of Engineers, Draft Environmental Assessment, Test Fill at Miami Beach Using Upland Sand Source, Miami-Dade County

SAI: FL 200205242077C

Dear Ms. Raffington:

The Department has reviewed the above-referenced Clearinghouse project and offers the following comments.

Background

The proposed activity is to fill 1.5 miles of beach in Northern Miami-Dade County, to prevent further erosion from storm events. Miami-Dade County is exhausting borrow areas offshore that are used for beach re-nourishment and additional sources of material are being explored. This project is a proposed test fill using an off-site sand source from an upland area. Approximately 600,000-cubic yards of fill would be placed on the beach at a 15:1 slope.

Comments and Recommendations

This project will require a permit from the DEP Office of Beaches and Coastal Systems (BCS). It is our understanding that the Corps has been working with DEP's BCS, and that final consistency of the project will be determined during the permitting process. The BCS will be analyzing the properties of the off-site upland sand material and determining its compatibility with existing beach sand, and its suitability for use, prior to authorizing the source of material. In conjunction with that analysis, it is recommended that the off-site sand also be tested for contamination prior to final approval.

Because sea turtles may nest within this project area it is recommended that the FWCC be consulted on the nature of the borrow material grain size and constituency, and its compatibility with turtle nesting requirements. The FWCC should also be consulted on the adequacy of the manatee and turtle protection requirements prior to final authorization.

Any in-water construction activities should be contained, with best management practices utilized.

If you need further assistance, please give me a call at (850) 487-2231.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Robert W. Hall", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robert W. Hall
Office of Intergovernmental Programs

cc: Roxane Dow
Sharon Niemczyk



Clearinghouse

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Public Area

[Brochure](#)[Manual](#)[help](#) | [411](#) | [feedback](#) | [directory](#)☒ email Governor Jeb Bush☐ Gov. Bush's E-Newsletter**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**[Home](#) > [My In-Box](#) > [Search Project](#) > **Add Agency Comments****User:** VANESSA HOLMES, , Clearinghouse**Project Information****Project:** FL200205242077C**Description:** Department of the Army - Jacksonville District Corps of Engineers - Draft Environmental Assessment - Test Fill at Miami Beach Using a Domestic Upland Sand Source - Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project - Miami-Dade County, Florida.**Keywords:** ACOE - DEA - Test Fill at Miami Beach - Miami-Dade**Program:****Review Comments**

◀ 3/11 ▶

Agency: FISH and WILDLIFE COMMISSION**Date:** (mm/dd/yyyy)**Description:** NC by Robbin Trindell**Comment Type:**☒ Draft ☐ Final**Save**



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◀ 6/11 ▶

Agency: SOUTH FLORIDA WMD**Date:** 06/04/2002 (mm/dd/yyyy)**Description:** Not Applicable. Under the Operating Agreement between DEP and the SFWMD, this project will be reviewed by DEP.**Comment Type:**☐ Draft ☒ Final**Save**

COUNTY: MIAMI-DADE

DATE: 5/22/02

COMMENTS DUE DATE: 6/23/02

CLEARANCE DUE DATE: 7/21/02

Message:

SAI#: FL200205242077C

STATE AGENCIES

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
FISH and WILDLIFE COMMISSION
STATE
TRANSPORTATION
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

WATER MNGMNT. DISTRICTS

SOUTH FLORIDA WMD

OPB POLICY UNITS

X ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY UNIT

RECEIVED
MAY 31 2002

The attached document requires a Coastal Zone Management Act/Florida Coastal Management Program consistency evaluation and is categorized as one of the following:

- Federal Assistance to State or Local Government (15 CFR 930, Subpart F). Agencies are required to evaluate the consistency of the activity.
- X Direct Federal Activity (15 CFR 930, Subpart C). Federal Agencies are required to furnish a consistency determination for the State's concurrence or objection.
- Outer Continental Shelf Exploration, Development or Production Activities (15 CFR 930, Subpart E). Operators are required to provide a consistency certification for state concurrence/objection.
- Federal Licensing or Permitting Activity (15 CFR 930, Subpart D). Such projects will only be evaluated for consistency when there is not an analogous state license or permit.

Project Description:

Department of the Army - Jacksonville District
Corps of Engineers - Draft Environmental
Assessment - Test Fill at Miami Beach Using a
Domestic Upland Sand Source - Dade County
Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection
Project - Miami-Dade County, Florida.

To: Florida State Clearinghouse
AGENCY CONTACT AND COORDINATOR (SCH)
2555 SHUMARD OAK BLVD
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-2100
(850) 414-6580 (SC 994-6580)
(850) 414-0479

EO. 12372/NEPA

- ☒ No Comment
- ☐ Comment Attached
- ☐ Not Applicable

Federal Consistency

- ☐ No Comment/Consistent
- ☐ Consistent/Comments Attached
- ☐ Inconsistent/Comments Attached
- ☐ Not Applicable

From:

Division/Bureau: _____

Reviewer: _____

Date: _____

RECEIVED

JUL 18 2002

OIP/OLGA

COUNTY: MIAMI-DADE

DATE: 5/22/02

COMMENTS DUE DATE: 6/23/02

CLEARANCE DUE DATE: 7/21/02

Message:

SAI#: FL200205242077C

STATE AGENCIES	WATER MNGMNT. DISTRICTS	OPB POLICY UNITS
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS FISH and WILDLIFE COMMISSION STATE X TRANSPORTATION ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION	SOUTH FLORIDA WMD	ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY UNIT

State of Florida Clearinghouse

The attached document requires a Coastal Zone Management Act/Florida Coastal Management Program consistency evaluation and is categorized as one of the following:

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- Outer Continental Shelf Exploration, Development or Production Activities (15 CFR 930, Subpart E). Operators are required to provide a consistency certification for state concurrence/objection.
- Federal Licensing or Permitting Activity (15 CFR 930, Subpart D). Such projects will only be evaluated for consistency when there is not an analogous state license or permit.

Project Description:

Department of the Army - Jacksonville District Corps of Engineers - Draft Environmental Assessment - Test Fill at Miami Beach Using a Domestic Upland Sand Source - Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project - Miami-Dade County, Florida.

To: Florida State Clearinghouse AGENCY CONTACT AND COORDINATOR (SCH) 2555 SHUMARD OAK BLVD TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-2100 (850) 414-6580 (SC 994-6580) (850) 414-0479	EO. 12372/NEPA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Comment <input type="checkbox"/> Comment Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable	Federal Consistency <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Comment/Consistent <input type="checkbox"/> Consistent/Comments Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Inconsistent/Comments Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
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From:

Division/Bureau: *EPOT*
Reviewer: *Linda Palmer*

SAI Routing Sheet

COUNTY: MIAMI-DADE

DATE: 05/24/2002

Message:

SAI#: FL200205242077C

PROJECT TO BE REVIEWED BY: (Div/Program)	ASSIGNED REVIEWERS (Print Last Name)	IS PROJECT LOCATED IN APPROVED DRI? (Circle Yes/No)				Is Project CONSISTENT w/ COMPLAN? NA	Is Project CONSISTENT w/ FCMP?		Do you have any COMMENTS on project? NO	DATE REVIEW COMPLETED	RVWR/ SUPV INIT.
		YES		NO			YES	NO			
		Is Project Consistent with DO?		Is Project DRI Scale?							
DCP 6/4/02 Date Rec'd	RWD	YES	NO	YES	NO					6/9/02	
				Monitoring Letter?	Monitoring Letter?						
		YES	NO	YES	NO						
Complete and forward to Div/Prog Below no later than: 6/23/02											
CMP 6/6/02 Date Rec'd	Clayton	Wetlands?		Stormwater?					✓	6-17-02	SC
		YES	NO	YES	NO						
Complete and forward to ACC Coordinator no later than: 6/23/02											

UNIT COORDINATORS for Intergovernmental Coordination and Review:

CMP COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
DCP COMMUNITY PLANNING

Ms. VANESSA HOLMES

2555 SHUMARD OAK
BLVD
2555 SHUMARD OAK
BLVD

(850) 414-6563
(850) 488-2356

The attached document requires a Coastal Zone Management Act/Florida Coastal Management Program consistency evaluation and is categorized as one of the following:

- ☐ Federal Assistance to State or Local Government (15 CFR 930, Subpart F). Agencies are required to evaluate the consistency of the activity.
- ☒ Direct Federal Activity (15 CFR 930, Subpart C). Federal Agencies are required to furnish a consistency determination for the State's concurrence or objection.
- ☐ Outer Continental Shelf Exploration, Development or Production Activities (15 CFR 930, Subpart E). Operators are required to provide a consistency certification for state concurrence/objection.
- ☐ Federal Licensing or Permitting Activity (15 CFR 930, Subpart D). Such projects will only be evaluated for consistency when there is not an analogous state license or permit.

Project Description:

Department of the Army - Jacksonville District
Corps of Engineers - Draft Environmental
Assessment - Test Fill at Miami Beach Using a
Domestic Upland Sand Source - Dade County
Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection
Project - Miami-Dade County, Florida.

EO. 12372/NEPA ☐ No Comment ☐ Comments Attached ☐ Not Applicable
Federal Consistency ☐ No Comment/Consistent ☐ Consistent/Comments Attached ☐ Inconsistent/Comments Attached ☐ N/A

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. UNIT COORDINATORS are responsible for logging in, logging out, and hand-carrying/mailling project packages to the next reviewing unit on this form, or to the ACC if all review requirements have been met. Failure to meet internal suspense dates may result in loss of opportunity to comment on critical issues.
2. Requests for EXTENSIONS should be made prior to due date, especially if COMMENTS will be submitted. Contact your UNIT COORDINATOR, who will request the EXTENSION from the ACC.
3. Agency COMMENTS on SAIs will be sent to the State Clearinghouse (SCH) and should be prepared in LETTER format for the Secretary's signature. Forward the project package to the next review unit while your COMMENTS are being drafted. Coordinate your comments with other reviewers prior to finalizing.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Southeast Regional Office
9721 Executive Center Drive North
St. Petersburg, Florida 33702

June 21, 2002

James C. Duck
Chief, Planning Division
Environmental Branch
Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 4970
Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019

Dear Mr. Duck:

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has reviewed your letter dated May 21, 2002, requesting comments regarding the **Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project** in Dade County, Florida. The proposed project involves test filling of approximately 1.5 miles of shoreline near 63rd Street in Miami Beach using a domestic upland sand source. The EA provides your Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Assessment for the proposed project, as required by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSFCMA).

According to the EA, the proposed project would extend over approximately 1.5 miles of shoreline, located between DEP monuments R-36 and R-47, and involves placement of 600,000 cubic yards of fill material. The ocean bottom along the length of the proposed project is comprised of barren sand. Reef maps from the Corps of Engineers' (COE) 1996 Coast of Florida Erosion and Storm Effects Study, Region III (Coast of Florida Study) indicate that the nearest hard bottom reefs are located approximately 1,800 feet offshore. The NMFS agrees with the determination that impacts which are normally associated with dredging within borrow areas are not likely in connection with this project. However, an undetermined amount of hard bottom reefs could be impacted if pipelines are placed on or near the reefs. As noted on the EA, hard bottom reefs may be impacted by physical crushing, abrasion, and shading of benthic resources (i.e. algae, sponges, soft and hard corals). The COE intends to determine the amount of hard bottom reef impacts by conducting post-project benthic surveys along the corridor. Mitigation for impacts to hard bottom resources would be provided by construction of artificial reef modules at a creation-to-impact ratio of 1 to 1.

These areas are Essential Fish Habitat (EFH), as defined by the 1996 amendment to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSFCMA). The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (SAFMC) has identified categories of EFH that occur within the project



vicinity, including the marine water column, live/hard bottoms, coral and coral reefs, and sargassum. Managed species associated with the marine water column include eggs and sub-adult brown and pink shrimp; gag and yellowedge grouper; gray, mutton, lane and schoolmaster snappers; and white grunt. The marine water column and sargassum also have been identified as EFH for pelagic species, including sub-adult juvenile king and Spanish mackerel, greater amberjack, cobia, and dolphin. Hard bottom/coral reef habitats have been identified as EFH for juvenile and adult gag and yellowedge grouper, gray and mutton snapper, and spiny lobster. Likewise, the Mid Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC) has identified EFH for bluefish that includes water column in the project area extending from the coastline to well beyond the construction limits for this project. Detailed information on shrimp, the snapper/grouper complex (containing ten families and 73 species), mackerel, bluefish, dolphin, spiny lobster and other Federally managed fisheries and their EFH is provided in the 1998 generic amendment of the Fishery Management Plans (FMP) for the South Atlantic and Mid Atlantic regions prepared by the SAFMC and MAFMC, respectively. The 1998 amendment was prepared as required by the MSFCMA. The NMFS has identified EFH for highly migratory species that utilize the marine water column in this area, including juvenile and adult nurse, lemon, blacktip, sandbar and bull sharks. In addition, the SAFMC has also designated hard bottom habitat and sargassum as Habitat Area of Particular Concern (HAPC) for the snapper/grouper complex and highly migratory pelagic species, respectively. HAPCs are subsets of EFH that are rare, particularly susceptible to human-induced degradation, especially ecologically important, or located in an environmentally stressed area.

In addition to EFH for Federally managed species, the marine water column, sargassum, hard bottom, coral, and shallow nearshore habitats provide nursery, foraging, and refuge habitat for other commercially and recreationally important fish and shellfish. Species such as blue crab, flounder, Florida pompano, striped mullet, tarpon, and a variety reef fish and tropical fish are among the many species that utilize these habitats.

According to the EA, the COE and Dade County Department of Environmental Resource Management intends to implement a number of measures to avoid impacts to hard bottom habitats by sedimentation and turbidity. In addition, hard bottom reef impacts will be minimized by selecting a pipeline corridor that contains the least diverse and developed benthic resources, using buoys and concrete blocks to mark the corridor, and using truck tires to elevate the pipe off the bottom. Although the COE proposes to provide mitigation for hard bottom impacts at a 1 to 1 ratio, the NMFS is concerned that the proposed mitigation does not compensate for the loss of productivity and habitat availability incurred during the period between elimination of hard bottom habitat and establishment of a viable replacement reef. A viable replacement reef, with a full complement of hard bottom reef species, will take several years. Monitoring of colonization rates of damaged reefs or bare rock indicate that after one or two years coralline algae, sponges, octocorals, zooanthids, and pioneering stony corals begin to settle on barren surfaces; after eight to ten years, a high density of sponges and octocorals with a moderate density of pioneering stony corals will become established¹.

¹Jaap, W.C. 2000. Coral reef restoration. *Ecological Engineering* 15: 345-364.

To address the temporal lag factor associated with establishment of a viable reef, use of a process such as the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Habitat Equivalency Analysis (HEA)², should be included in the mitigation plan for the proposed project.

In view of the potential adverse effects of this project to EFH, HAPC, and other NOAA trust resources, the NMFS provides the following:

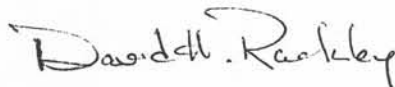
EFH Conservation Recommendation

A plan for providing in-kind, full compensation for unavoidable adverse impacts to hard bottom resources should include compensation for the loss of productivity and habitat availability incurred during the period between elimination and establishment of replacement coral habitat. This should incorporate a temporal loss assessment, such as NOAA's Habitat Equivalency Analysis.

Section 305(b)(4)(B) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act and the NMFS's implementing regulation at 50 CFR Section 600.920(k) require your office to provide a written response to this letter within 30 days of its receipt. If it is not possible to provide a substantive response within 30 days, in accordance with our "findings" with the your Planning Division, an interim response should be provided to the NMFS. A detailed response then must be provided prior to final approval of the action. Your detailed response must include a description of measures proposed by your agency to avoid, mitigate, or offset the adverse impacts of the activity. If your response is inconsistent with our EFH Conservation Recommendations, you must provide a substantive discussion justifying the reasons for not following the recommendations.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide these comments. Related correspondence should be addressed to the attention of Mr. Mike Johnson at our Miami Office. He may be reached at 11420 North Kendall Drive, Suite #103, Miami, Florida 33176, or by telephone at (305) 595-8352.

Sincerely,



Andreas Mager, Jr.
Assistant Regional Administrator
Habitat Conservation Division

cc:

F/SER4

F/SER3

F/SER43-Johnson

²National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. 1995. Habitat equivalency analysis: an overview. Damage assessment and restoration program. Washington D.C.



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

MAY 31 2002

District Engineer, Jacksonville
P.O. Box 4970
Jacksonville, FL 32232

ATTN: Chief, Planning Division
Jacksonville District, Corps of Engineers

**SUBJECT: Environmental Assessment (EA) for Renourishment at Miami Beach -
Proposed Test Fill Using A Domestic Sand Source (63rd to 83rd Street),
Dade County, Florida (dtd May, 2002)**

Dear Sir,

Pursuant to Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, EPA, Region 4 has reviewed the subject document, an evaluation of the environmental consequences of placing approximately 600,000 cubic yards of sand along the eroding beachfront between 63rd and 83rd streets. This particular test is limited to sand from domestic sources; however, given the volume of material necessary to meet the needs of south Florida degrading beaches, it is reasonable to assume that eventually other borrow sites (e.g., in the Caribbean) may have to be examined. The proposed test site encompasses approximately 1.5 miles from R-36 to R-47. It was not specified why this particular reach or length of shoreline was chosen for the test. The upland borrow area(s) remains to be determined, but nourishment material must meet a restrictive set of specifications to ensure compatibility with the existing substrate. Sand will be excavated from the upland site and eventually transhipped to the test site via barges. The ramifications of this element of the project remain to be determined.

The pipeline corridor used during previous nourishment episodes for this shoreline will be re-employed to translocate the sand from the noted barges. We concur with this technique as it should lessen impact(s) to surrounding undisturbed hardbottom habitat. Given the array of impacts (traffic congestion and roadway wear/tear) attendant to placing nourishment material directly on the beach from dump trucks, we understand why the local sponsor favors the use of barges. Nonetheless, their use will result in perturbations to biologically sensitive communities during the course of the sand transfer and the magnitude of these losses should be evaluated via the 404(b)(1) Guidelines process. We note that the District has had some success in lessening these adverse impacts by requiring various mitigative measures, e.g., suspension collars. The contract(s)

for this proposal should continue this practice,; however, any unavoidable losses should receive mitigation, especially the resources which are essentially permanently sacrificed in the pipeline corridor. The specific elements of same should be determined by representatives from all of the involved federal/state/local agencies. To ensure adequate compensation a comparison of pre- and post-project condition should be accomplished by an interagency survey team. If remote sensing is used rather than actual ground-truthing, it should be **recent** and **applicable** to the task.

EPA always has some environmental concerns regarding the long term consequences of beach nourishment projects, especially those which attempt to forestall the inevitable erosion resulting from various acute/chronic marine processes (see comments on Environmental Assessment on the 63rd Street Segment). While acknowledging the importance of protecting property from hurricane events, such protection should not come at the unnecessary sacrifice of valuable offshore hardground and benthic habitats. In this instance, the use of an upland sand source may prove more costly initially, but could engender lesser adverse impacts to hardground and coral reef habitats compared to mining offshore borrow sites. Hence, when the District makes its final determination on the performance of an upland sand source, the environmental components of the decision-making equation should receive equal consideration with economics.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If we can be of further assistance in this matter, Mr. Ron Miedema (561-616-8641) of our South Florida Office will serve as initial point of contact.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "H. Mueller", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Heinz J. Mueller, Chief
Office of Environmental Assessment
Environmental Accountability Division



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P. O. BOX 4970
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32232-0019

Planning Division
Environmental Branch

MAY 21 2002

Mr. Andreas Mager, Jr.
Assistant Regional Administrator
Habitat Conservation Division
National Marine Fisheries Service
9721 Executive Center Drive North
St. Petersburg, Florida 33702

Dear Mr. Mager:

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), enclosed for your review and comment is a copy of the draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Proposed Test Fill at Miami Beach Using a Domestic Upland Sand Source, Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project. The EA also constitutes our Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Assessment as required by the 1996 amendments to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSFMCA). With this letter we are initiating EFH consultation with your agency.

We request your comments pursuant to NEPA and MSFMCA within 30 days. If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Mr. Mike Dupes at 904-232-1689, fax at 904-232-3442 or e-mail at michael.dupes@saj02.usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

James C. Duck
Chief, Planning Division

Copies Furnished:

Mr. David H. Rackly, National Marine Fisheries Service, 219 Fort Johnson Road,
Charleston, South Carolina 29412-9110

Mr. Michael Johnson, National Marine Fisheries Service, 11420 North Kendall Drive,
Miami, Florida 33176



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P. O. BOX 4970
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32232-0019

Planning Division
Environmental Branch

MAY 21 2002

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Enclosed for your review and comment is a copy of the draft Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Test Fill at Miami Beach Using a Domestic Upland Sand Source, Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project.

Any comments you may have must be submitted in writing to the letterhead address within 45 days of the date of this letter. Any questions concerning the project should be directed to Mr. Mike Dupes at 904-232-1689, fax at 904-232-3442 or e-mail at michael.dupes@saj02.usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "James C. Duck", is positioned above the typed name.

James C. Duck
Chief, Planning Division

Enclosure



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P. O. BOX 4970
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32232-0019

Planning Division
Environmental Branch

MAY 21 2002

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulation (33 CFR 230.11), this letter constitutes the Notice of Availability of the draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and preliminary Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the proposed Test Fill at Miami Beach using a Domestic Upland Sand Source, Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project. A copy of the preliminary FONSI is enclosed.

The purpose of the project is to prevent or reduce loss of public beachfront to continuing erosional forces and to prevent or reduce periodic damages and potential risk to life, health and property in the developed lands adjacent to the beach. An additional purpose is to evaluate the economic, engineering, and environmental performance of an upland source of sand on the project. Approximately 600,000 cubic yards of beach quality sand is proposed for placement along a 1.5-mile segment of shoreline in northern Miami Beach.

Any comments you may have must be submitted in writing to the letterhead address within 45 days of the date of this letter. Questions concerning the project or requests for copies of the draft EA should be directed to Mr. Mike Dupes at 904-232-1689, fax 904-232-3442 or e-mail at michael.dupes@saj02.usace.army.mil. Copies of the draft EA will be available for public review at the reference desk of the Miami Beach Branch Public Library, 2100 Collins Avenue, Miami Beach, Florida. The point of contact at the library is Ms. Reaette King-Kee at 305-535-4219.

Sincerely,

James C. Duck
Chief, Planning Division

Enclosure

MR RICHARD HARVEY
EPA - SOUTH FLORIDA OFFICE
400 NORTH CONGRESS AVENUE SUITE 120
WEST PALM BEACH FL 33401

EA

MS DONNA WIETING
US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
HCHB SP ROOM 6117
14TH & CONSTITUTION AV NW
WASHINGTON DC 20230
(5 CYS)

EA

COMMANDER
7TH COAST GUARD DISTRICT
BRICKELL PLAZA FED BLDG
909 SE 1ST AVENUE
MIAMI FL 33131-3050

EA

MR HEINZ MUELLER
US ENVIR PROTECTION AGENCY
ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY SECTION
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA GA 30303-3104
(5 CYS)

EA

HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER
75 SPRING STREET SW ROOM 600-C
ATLANTA GA 30303-3309
(2 CYS)

EA

MR MIKE JOHNSON
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
11420 NORTH KENDALL DR SUITE 103
MIAMI FL 33176

EA

MR DAVID J RACKLEY
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
219 FORT JOHNSON ROAD
CHARLESTON SC 29412-9110

EA

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
CHIEF PROTECTED SPECIES DIVISION
9721 EXECUTIVE CENTER DR NORTH
ST PETERSBURG FL 33702

EA

REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
9721 EXECUTIVE CENTER DR NORTH
ST PETERSBURG FL 33702

EA

REGIONAL DIRECTOR
FEMA INSURANCE & MITIGATION DIV
3003 CHAMBLEE-TUCKER ROAD
ATLANTA GA 30341

EA

REGIONAL DIRECTOR
US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
1875 CENTURY BOULEVARD
ATLANTA GA 30345

EA

SOUTHERN REGION FORESTER
US FOREST SERVICE - USDA
1720 PEACHTREE ROAD NW
ATLANTA GA 30309-2405

EA

FIELD SUPERVISOR
US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
1339 20TH STREET
VERO BEACH FL 32960-3559

EA

MR BRAD RIECK
US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
1339 20TH STREET
VERO BEACH FL 32960-3559

Address list for circulation of Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) or Notice of Availability (NOA) of Draft EA for the Proposed Test Fill at Miami Beach using a Domestic Upland Sand Source, Dade County BEC & HP Project. Those addressees marked with EA will receive copies of the EA. All others will receive a NOA of the Draft EA and Preliminary FONSI.

MS TRISH ADAMS
US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
1339 20TH STREET
VERO BEACH FL 32960-3559 EA

US DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATURAL RES CONSER SERVICE
PO BOX 141510
GAINESVILLE FL 32614-1510 EA

DIVISION OF STATE LANDS
BUREAU OF SURVEY & MAPPING
3900 COMMONWEALTH BLVD MS 105
TALLAHASSEE FL 32399-3000 EA

DR JANET S MATTHEWS
DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RES - SHPO
500 SOUTH BRONOUGH STREET
TALLAHASSEE FL 32399-0250 EA

FLORIDA DEPT OF ENVIR PROTECTION
DIVISION OF STATE LANDS
P O BOX 15425
WEST PALM BEACH FL 33416-5425 EA

FLORIDA DEPT OF ENVIR PROTECTION
FLORIDA MARINE RESEARCH INST
19100 SE FEDERAL HIGHWAY
TEQUESTA FL 33469 EA

FLORIDA DEPT OF ENVIR PROTECTION
OFFICE OF AQUATIC PRESERVES
1801 SE HILLMOOR DRIVE SUITE 0204
PORT ST LUCIE FL 34952-7551 EA

FLORIDA DEPT OF ENVIR PROTECTION
SOUTH FLORIDA DISTRICT
P O BOX 15425
WEST PALM BEACH FL 33416-5425 EA

FL FISH & WILDLIFE CONSERV COMM
255 154TH AVENUE
VERO BEACH FL 32968-9041 EA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MGMT DIST
3301 GUN CLUB ROAD
WEST PALM BEACH FL 33416 EA

SOUTH FLORIDA REG PLNG COUNCIL
3440 HOLLYWOOD BLVD SUITE 140
HOLLYWOOD FL 33021 EA

FLORIDA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE
DEPT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
2555 SHUMARD OAK BLVD
TALLAHASSEE FL 32399-2100 EA
(16 CYS)

MR BRADLEY J HARTMAN
FL FISH & WILDLIFE CONSERV COMM
DIRECTOR OFFICE OF ENV SERVICES
620 SOUTH MERIDIAN STREET
TALLAHASSEE FL 32399-1600 EA

CITY MANAGER
CITY OF SOUTH MIAMI
6130 SUNSET DRIVE
SOUTH MIAMI FL 33143

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CITY MANAGER
CITY OF MIAMI BEACH
1700 CONVENTION CENTER DRIVE
MIAMI FL 33139

DIRECTOR
MIAMI BEACH PUBLIC WORKS DEPT
1700 CONVENTION CENTER DRIVE
MIAMI BEACH FL 33139

MAYOR
CITY OF MIAMI BEACH
1700 CONVENTION CENTER DRIVE
MIAMI BEACH FL 33139

MAYOR
CITY OF MIAMI SHORES
10050 NE 2ND AVENUE
MIAMI SHORES FL 33138

CITY MANAGER
CITY OF MIAMI
3500 PAN AMERICAN DRIVE
MIAMI FL 33133

MAYOR
CITY OF MIAMI
3500 PAN AMERICAN DRIVE
MIAMI FL 33133

CITY MANAGER
CITY OF NORTH MIAMI BEACH
17011 NE 19 AVENUE
N MIAMI BEACH FL 33162

MAYOR
CITY OF NORTH MIAMI BEACH
776 NE 125 STREET
N MIAMI FL 33161

MIAM-DADE COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
111 NW 1ST STREET
MIAMI FL 33128

MR BRIAN FLYNN
MIAMI-DADE CO DEP OF ENV RES MGMT
33 SW 2ND AVENUE SUITE 1000
MIAMI FL 33130

EA

MR STEVE BLAIR
MIAMI-DADE CO DEP OF ENV RES MGMT
33 SW 2ND AVENUE SUITE 1000
MIAMI FL 33130

EA

MAYOR
TOWN OF BAY HARBOR ISLAND
9655 BAY HARBOR TERRACE
BAY HARBOR ISLAND FL 33154

TOWN MANAGER
TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH
ONE GOLDEN BEACH DRIVE
GOLDEN BEACH FL 33160

MAYOR
TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH
ONE GOLDEN BEACH DRIVE
GOLDEN BEACH FL 33160

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MAYOR
TOWN OF SURFSIDE
9293 HARDING AVENUE
SURFSIDE FL 33154

TOWN OF SURFSIDE
TOWN OF SURFSIDE
9293 HARDING AVENUE
SURFSIDE FL 33154

MAYOR
VILLAGE OF BAL HARBOUR
655 96TH STREET
BAL HARBOUR FL 33154

VILLAGE MANAGER
VILLAGE OF BAL HARBOUR
655 96TH STREET
BAL HARBOUR FL 33154

DIRECTOR
METRO DADE PARK & REC DEPT
275 NW 2ND STREET 5TH FLOOR
MIAMI FL 33128

MAYOR
CITY OF SOUTH MIAMI
6130 SUNSET DRIVE
SOUTH MIAMI FL 33143

CITY MANAGER
CITY OF KEY BISCAYNE
85 WEST MACINTYRE STREET
KEY BISCAYNE FL 33149-1845

MAYOR
CITY OF KEY BISCAYNE
85 WEST MACINTYRE STREET
KEY BISCAYNE FL 33149-1845

MAYOR
INDIAN CREEK VILLAGE
50 INDIAN CREEK ISLAND
INDIAN CREEK VILLAGE FL 33154-2902

MAYOR
CITY OF WEST MIAMI
901 W 62ND AVENUE
WEST MIAMI FL 33144-4805

TOWN MANAGER
TOWN OF BAY HARBOR ISLAND
9665 BAY HARBOR TERRACE
BAY HARBOR ISLAND FL 33154-2005

MAYOR
NORTH BAY VILLAGE
7903 EAST DRIVE
NORTH BAY VILLAGE FL 33141-3398

MR STEVE HIGGINS
BROWARD COUNTY
DEPT OF NATURAL RES PROTECTION
218 SW 1ST AVENUE
FT LAUDERDALE FL 33301

EA

MR RICHARD E WALESKY
PALM BEACH COUNTY
DEPT OF ENV RES MANAGEMENT
3323 BELVEDERE ROAD BLDG 502
WEST PALM BEACH FL 33406

EA

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HONORABLE SALLY A HEYMAN
FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
1100 NE 163RD STREET SUITE 303
NORTH MIAMI BEACH FL 33162-4515

HONORABLE GUSTAVO BARREIRO
FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
1454 S FIRST STREET SUITE 100
MIAMI FL 33125-5503

HONORABLE RON SILVER
FLORIDA STATE SENATE
12000 BISCAYNE BLVD SUITE 411
AVENTURA FL 33181

HONORABLE ALCEE L HASTINGS
US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
2701 W OAKLAND PARK BLVD SUITE 200
OAKLAND PARK FL 33311-1363

HONORABLE CARRIE P MEEK
US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
3550 BISCAYNE BLVD SUITE 500
MIAMI FL 33137

HONORABLE ILENA ROS-LEHTINEN
US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
9210 SW 72ND STREET SUITE 100
MIAMI FL 33173

HONORABLE LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART
US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
8525 NW 53RD TERRACE SUITE 102
MIAMI FL 33166

HONORABLE PETER DEUTSCH
US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
10100 PINES BOULEVARD
PEMBROKE PINES FL 33025

HONORABLE CLAY SHAW
US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
1512 E BROWARD BLVD SUITE 101
FT LAUDERDALE FL 33301

HONORABLE BOB GRAHAM
UNITED STATES SENATOR
150 SE 2ND AVENUE SUITE 1025
MIAMI FL 33131

HONORABLE BILL NELSON
UNITED STATES SENATOR
U S COURTHOUSE ANNEX
111 NORTH ADAMS STREET
TALLAHASSEE FL 32301

MR RICHARD HAMMER
CONTINENTAL SHELF ASSOCIATES
759 PARKWAY STREET
JUPITER FL 33477

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES INC
8711 PERIMETER PARK BLVD SUITE 11
JACKSONVILLE FL 32216

MR JOHN SZELIGOWSKI
TAMS CONSULTANTS
655 3RD AVENUE
NEW YORK NY 10017

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DR KEVIN BODGE
OLSEN ASSOCIATES INC
4438 HERSCHEL STREET
JACKSONVILLE FL 32210

CHAIRMAN
AMERICAN LITTORAL SOCIETY
75 VIRGINIA BEACH DRIVE
KEY BISCAYNE FL 33149 EA

MR ALEXANDER STONE
AMERICAN LITTORAL SOCIETY (BHNI)
2809 BIRD AVENUE PMB 162
MIAMI FL 33133 EA

MR DAVID GODFREY
CARIBBEAN CONSERVATION CORP
PO BOX 2866
GAINESVILLE FL 32602-2866

FLORIDA WILDLIFE FEDERATION
PO BOX 6870
TALLAHASSEE FL 32314-6870

ISAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA
5314 BAY STATE ROAD
PALMETTO FL 33561-9712

MR JIM VON OISTE
REEFKEEPER INTERNATIONAL
2809 BIRD AVENUE PMB 162
MIAMI FL 33133 EA

NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION
1330 WEST PEACHTREE STREET SUITE 475
ATLANTA GA 30309

NATURE CONSERVANCY
FLORIDA CHAPTER
222 S WESTMONTE DR SUITE 300
ALTAMONTE SPRINGS FL 32714-4269

CONSERVATION CHAIRMAN
SIERRA CLUB
9829 SW 62 COURT
MIAMI FL 33156

CHAIRMAN
SIERRA CLUB
PO BOX 430741
MIAMI FL 33142-0741

TROPICAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
18014 SW 83 COURT
MIAMI FL 33157

MR WALTER BRESSLOUR
CONCERNED CITIZENS NE DADE CO
201 178TH DRIVE #516
SUNNY ISLES FL 33160-2830

DR KENYON LINDEMAN
ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE
14630 SW 144 TERRACE
MIAMI FL 33186

Address list for circulation of Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) or Notice of Availability (NOA) of Draft EA for the Proposed Test Fill at Miami Beach using a Domestic Upland Sand Source, Dade County BEC & HP Project. Those addressees marked with EA will receive copies of the EA. All others will receive a NOA of the Draft EA and Preliminary FONSI.

ROBERT M LEVY AND ASSOCIATES
780 NE 69TH STREET #1703
MIAMI FL 33138

FLORIDA SHORE & BEACH PRES ASSOC
2952 WELLINGTON CIRCLE
TALLAHASSEE FL 32308

MR PHILIP A BANGERT
PATTON BOGGS ATTORNEYS AT LAW
2550 M STREET NW
WASHINGTON DC 20037-1350

MR MARK SICKLES
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
DREDGING CONTRACTORS OF AMERICA
643 SOUTH WASHINGTON STREET
ALEXANDRIA VA 22314 EA

MR VICTOR POSNER
GAIL P CARR LESSEES ET ALTRS
6917 COLLINS AVENUE
MIAMI BEACH FL 33141

%LE TRAINON
6061 COLLINS AVENUE
MIAMI BEACH FL 33141

GENERAL MANAGER
COMFORT INN
6261 COLLINS AVENUE
MIAMI BEACH FL 33141

LAGORCE PALACE
6301 COLLINS AVENUE
MIAMI BEACH FL 33141

MR DAVID HESS
ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT
CASABLANCA
6345 COLLINS AVENUE
MIAMI BEACH FL 33141

NEW FLORIDA INT'L CORP
%FREEMAN NEWMAN & BUTTERMAN
520 BRICKELL KEY DRIVE SUITE 0-305
MIAMI FL 33131-2619

MANAGER
MAR DEL PLATA
6423 COLLINS AVENUE
MIAMI BEACH FL 33141

TRANS OCEAN ENTERPRISES INC
6525 COLLINS AVENUE
MIAMI BEACH FL 33141

7824 COLLINS INC
220 71ST STREET #213
MIAMI BEACH FL 33141-3215

JOEL SUSSMAN TR LESSEE
6565 COLLINS AVENUE
MIAMI BEACH FL 33141-4613

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SITE INVESTMENT CORP
2240 SW 122 COURT
MIAMI FL 33175-7315

ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT
THE STERLING
6767 COLLINS AVENUE
MIAMI FL 33141

M S GOLDEN SANDS INC
6901 COLLINS AVENUE
MIAMI BEACH FL 33141

ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT
PORT ROYALE
6969 COLLINS AVENUE
MIAMI BEACH FL 33141

OCEANFRONT RESORTS INC
6979 COLLINS AVENUE
MIAMI BEACH FL 33141-3205

GENERAL MANAGER
CLARION SUITES
6985 COLLINS AVENUE
MIAMI BEACH FL 33141

ALTOS DEL MAR REALTY CORP
1177 KANE CONCOURSE #201
BAY HARBOUR FL 33141-3205

MS RITA SWEDROE
7747 ATLANTIC WAY
MIAMI BEACH FL 33141-2119

MS NANCY J BONA
7837 ATLANTIC WAY
MIAMI BEACH FL 33141

CURRENT RESIDENT
7845 ATLANTIC WAY
MIAMI BEACH FL 33141

DEZER PROPERTIES CO
89 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK NY 10003

MS CAROL ROWE
ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT
CHAMPLAIN TOWERS SOUTH
8777 COLLINS AVENUE
MIAMI BEACH FL 33154

BETHES BEACH CLUB PARTNERS LTD
1001 CYPRESS CREEK ROAD #320
FT LAUDERDALE FL 33309

ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT
CHAMPLAIN TOWERS EAST
8855 COLLINS AVENUE
MIAMI BEACH FL 33154

Address list for circulation of Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) or Notice of Availability (NOA) of Draft EA for the Proposed Test Fill at Miami Beach using a Domestic Upland Sand Source, Dade County BEC & HP Project. Those addressees marked with EA will receive copies of the EA. All others will receive a NOA of the Draft EA and Preliminary FONSI.

CHAMPLAIN TOWERS NORTH
8877 COLLINS AVENUE
MIAMI BEACH FL 33154

MIRAGE CONDO DESC
8925 COLLINS AVENUE
MIAMI BEACH FL 33154

NORMANDY BEACH INC
220 71ST STREET #213
MIAMI BEACH FL 33141-3215

WINTER GARDEN CONDO DESC
8955 COLLINS AVENUE
MIAMI BEACH FL 33154

ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT
SURF HOUSE CONDO DESC
8995 COLLINS AVENUE
MIAMI BEACH FL 33154

PROFESSOR JOHN GIFFORD
RASMUS - UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
4600 RICKENBACKER CAUSEWAY
MIAMI FL 33149-1098

Address list for circulation of Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) or Notice of Availability (NOA) of Draft EA for the Proposed Test Fill at Miami Beach using a Domestic Upland Sand Source, Dade County BEC & HP Project. Those addressees marked with EA will receive copies of the EA. All others will receive a NOA of the Draft EA and Preliminary FONSI.



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P. O. BOX 4970
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32232-0019

Planning Division
Environmental Branch

MAY 21 2002

Ms. Reaette King-Kee
Miami Beach Branch Library
2100 Collins Avenue
Miami Beach, Florida 33139

Dear Ms. King-Kee:

Enclosed are two copies of the Draft Environmental Assessment on the Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project, Dade County Florida, Proposed Test Fill at Miami Beach Using a Domestic Upland Sand Source. These are being provided for public review pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. We request that you make these copies available for public viewing in the reference section of your library for a period of 90 days, after which they may be disposed.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter. If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Mr. Mike Dupes at 904-232-1689.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James C. Duck", is positioned above the typed name.

James C. Duck
Chief, Planning Division

Enclosures

comments on alternatives and issues from Federal, State, and local agencies, affected Indian tribes, and other interested private organizations and individuals. The next public workshop is scheduled for May 22, 2002, at the Miami-Dade Extension Office, located at 18710 SW 288th Street, Homestead, Florida. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. and continue to 10 p.m.

g. DEIS Preparation: The integrated draft PIR, including a DEIS, is currently scheduled for publication in June 2004.

Luz D. Ortiz,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 02-12187 Filed 5-15-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-AJ-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

Cancellation of the Notice of Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project, for a Test Beach Fill Using a Domestic Upland Sand Source Based on a Generic Sand Specification

AGENCY: Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

ACTION: Notice; cancellation.

SUMMARY: The Jacksonville District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers hereby cancels its notice of intent to prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project, as published in 64 FR 24373, May 6, 1999.

The notice is cancelled because, after scoping for the proposed DEIS was completed, no new new issues were raised; no request was received for public meetings, and comments were received only from environmental and resource agencies.

An Environmental Assessment will be prepared and coordinated for the proposed action. This document is expected to be available in May 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions can be forwarded to Mr. Mike Dupes, Environmental Branch, Planning Division, Jacksonville District, Corps of Engineers, Post Office Box 4970, Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019, Phone: 904-232-1689.

Dated: May 1, 2002.

James C. Duck,
Chief, Planning Division.

[FR Doc. 02-12179 Filed 5-15-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-AJ-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Shrewsbury River Basin, Monmouth County, NJ, Flood Control and Ecosystem Restoration Study: Feasibility Phase; Correction

AGENCY: Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

ACTION: Notice; date correction.

SUMMARY: The public scoping meetings scheduled for June 13, 2002 from 2 pm to 5 pm and from 7 pm to 9 pm published in the *Federal Register* on Friday, May 3, 2002 (67 FR 22414) have been rescheduled. The public scoping meetings will now be held on June 14, 2002 from 2 pm to 5 pm and from 7 pm to 9 pm. The meetings will be held in Monmouth County at the Sea Bright Borough Hall gymnasium.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Melissa Alvarez, Project Biologist, Planning Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District, 26 Federal Plaza, Room 2142, New York, New York, 10278-0090, at (212) 264-2008 or at melissa.d.alvarez@usace.army.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The information for the point of contact for the original notice has also changed, the physical street address has been modified and the email address has been added (see above).

Luz D. Ortiz,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 02-12186 Filed 5-15-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-06-M

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer invites comments on the submission for OMB review as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before June 17, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Lauren Wittenberg, Desk Officer, Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th

Street, NW., Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503 or should be electronically mailed to the internet address Lauren.Wittenberg@omb.eop.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g. new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment.

Dated: May 13, 2002.

John D. Tressler,

Leader, Regulatory Information Management, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

Office of Postsecondary Education

Type of Review: Reinstatement.

Title: Application for Grants under the Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program (84.217).

Frequency: Once every four years.

Affected Public: Not-for-profit institutions; Businesses or other for-profit; State, Local, or Tribal Governments; SEAs or LEAs.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Burden:

Responses: 300

Burden Hours: 1,500

Abstract: The application form is needed to conduct a national competition for the Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program for program year 2002-03. The program provides Federal financial assistance in the form of grants to institutions of higher education and combination of institutions of higher education. The program provides Federal financial assistance in the form of discretionary

APR 16 2002

Engineering Division
Geotechnical Branch

SUBJECT: Sand Composition, Generic Sand Specification, Dade County, FL

Mr. James J. Slack
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
South Florida Ecosystems Office
1339 20th Street
Vero Beach, FL 32960-3559

Dear Mr. Slack:

1. Reference the telephone conference held on November 13, 2001 between the Jacksonville District Corps of Engineers (SAJ), Mike Dupes and Doug Rosen, and US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), Ms. Trish Adams and Ms. Tracy Rice. The subject of the discussion was FWS comments on the Generic Sand Specification for Dade County, FL, Shore Protection Project, Test Fill for Miami Beach. This is the second recent letter concerning those conversations.

2. The FWS representatives indicated FWS was interested in having four items included in the sand specification. The following outlines the details of those inclusions.

a. The reefs will be monitored by Dade Environmental Resource Management, as they have in the past.

b. Copies of the Quality Control submittals of grain size curves for the sand being delivered and placed on the beach will be provided to FWS.

c. We will require frequency curves to be submitted with the cumulative curves for all grain size distribution data.

d. Based on recent discussions with your staff, FWS is not requiring the composition of the sand to be a certain mixture of quartz and carbonate.

SUBJECT: Sand Composition, Generic Sand Specification, Dade County, FL

3. It was a pleasure discussing improvements to the Generic Sand Specification with Ms. Adams and Ms. Rice of your agency. If there are any further questions on this issue, our point of contact is Mr. Doug Rosen, P.G. at 904-232-1617.

Sincerely,

Signed: Richard E. Bonner

RICHARD E. BONNER, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer for
Project Management

CF: Mike Dupes
Steve Blair, DERM
Trish Adams
Tracy Rice

File Copy

MAR 29 2002

Engineering Division
Geotechnical Branch

Subject: Sand Composition, Generic Sand Specification, Dade County, FL

Mr. James J. Slack
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
South Florida Ecosystems Office
1339 20th Street
Vero Beach, FL 32960-3559

Dear Mr. Slack:

1. Reference the telephone conference held on November 13, 2001 between the Jacksonville District Corps of Engineers (SAJ), Mr. Mike Dupes and Mr. Doug Rosen, and US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), Ms. Trish Adams and Ms. Tracy Rice. The subject of the discussion was FWS comments on the Generic Sand Specification for Dade County, FL, Shore Protection Project, Test Fill for Miami Beach.
2. The FWS indicated they would be interested in restoring the beach sand of Miami Beach back to the pre-nourishment sand composition, which is reported as 30-40 percent quartz and 60-70 percent carbonate. Doug Rosen stated that including a required quartz/carbonate ratio in the sand specification would decrease the number of available sources for sand. FWS wanted to know how much it would reduce the number of sand sources.
3. To answer this inquiry, we researched the "Dade County Alternate Sand Source Investigation" 1997, prepared by Coastal Planning & Engineering and Ayres Associates for SAJ. This study initiated the upland sand source search and development of the Generic Sand Specification. The Study included a market survey of sand suppliers and sent inquiries to 45 potential sand sources, with response from 25 sand sources.

Subject: Sand Composition, Generic Sand Specification, Miami Beach, FL

4. The quartz/carbonate ratio of the 25 respondent sand sources is shown on Table 1.

Table 1
Composition of Sand Reported by Sand Suppliers

Sand Composition	Quartz / Carbonate	Carbonate	Quartz	Other
Number of sites	9	2	13	1
% of total	36%	8%	52%	4%

Based on Table 1, specifying any quartz/carbonate ratio limits the sand sources for this project to 36 percent or roughly 1/3 of the suppliers.

5. For those sand sources that can provide sand with quartz and carbonate, Table 2 shows that specifying the desired 30-40 percent quartz further limits the sand sources available.

Table 2
Breakdown of Quartz/Carbonate Sand Suppliers

Number of Sites	4	2	1	2
% of Qtz/Carbonate Sources	44%	22%	11%	22%
% of Qtz in Sand	5%	30%	10%	50%
% of Carbonate in Sand	95%	70%	90%	50%

From Table 2 we can see only two sources (8%) of the 25 respondents can supply sand in the 30-40 percent quartz composition. If the two sites that supply a 50-50 quartz/carbonate ratio are included, four sources of the 25, or 16 percent of the sand sources in the market survey can supply the sand. Therefore, adding a required quartz/carbonate ratio to the Generic Sand Specification severely limits the alternate sand sources for the sustainability of the Dade Co. Shore Protection Project.

6. The concept of physically mixing a quartz sand supply and a carbonate sand supply to mechanically produce the 30-40 percent quartz/carbonate composition, although possible, severely increases the cost of the sand. A very simplistic plan may not produce the desired results on the beach either physically or aesthetically.

7. In conclusion, adding a quartz/carbonate ratio to the Generic Sand Specification severely limits the sand sources capable of supplying sand for the future sustainability of renourishment at Dade County.

Subject: Sand Composition, Generic Sand Specification, Miami Beach, FL

8. It was a pleasure discussing improvements to the Generic Sand Specification with Ms. Adams and Ms. Rice of your agency. If there are any further questions on this issue, our point of contact is Mr. Doug Rosen, P.G., at 904-232-1617.

Sincerely,

RICHARD E. BONNER, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer for
Project Management

CF: ✓ Mike Dupes (PD-EA)
Steve Blair, DERM
Trish Adams
Tracy Rice

AUG 24 2001

Planning Division
Environmental Branch

Mr. James J. Slack
South Florida Field Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1339 20th Street
Vero Beach Florida 32960-3559

Dear Mr. Slack:

This letter is in reference to your March 1, 2001 correspondence providing a Draft FWCA report on the Miami Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project proposed Alternate Test Beach Renourishment Project for Miami Beach. The Corps had requested an evaluation of the environmental effects of securing and placing fill material on 1.5 miles of public beach in Miami Florida. Your response, referenced above, contained a number of recommendations regarding testing and analysis of the physical parameters associated with the potential source of the fill.

Enclosed are a number of technical responses to your recommendations in Section VI of the above referenced report. If you have any questions please call Mr. Mike Dupes at 904-232-1689.

Sincerely,

James C. Duck
Chief, Planning Division

Enclosure

bcc:
CESAJ-DP-C (Stevens)

RESPONSE TO U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE FWCA REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE SAND SPECIFICATION

1. Upland material should be compared to the historic natural beach, not the material currently existing on the beach, which remains from previous nourishment activities.

Response: Concur. The sand spec is designed to accommodate a range of sand that is acceptable and perform well on the beach. The grain sizes and shell composition from the historic natural beach fits within this range as does the material currently existing on the beach. The spec restricts the amount of carbonate and the type of carbonate being placed on the beach.

2. Clarify mean grain size by including the sorting coefficient in the discussion.

Response: Do not concur. The sorting coefficient is one method to measure uniformity but it measures only the sorting in the central part of the curve. The method described in the sand spec to measure uniformity is standard deviation using the method of moments which considers all points under the curve. This is described in detail within the sand spec.

3. Specify that quarried limestone crushed to meet grain size specifications is prohibited. The term "manufactured" is confusing.

Response: Concur. Paragraph 4, "SAND FILL MATERIAL" of the spec, sentence 3 will be changed to "The sand may be processed, but sand created from crushed rock or any other manufactured sand is not allowed."

4. Turbidity issues and concerns can be addressed by including the following:

(a) Remove the words "whole or" in the shell fragments to describe acceptable shells. Whole shells that are sand sized are very fragile, break down easily and produce mud. These "whole" shells are not durable, and the shells should be defined as fragments of mollusk shells, and excluding Halimeda, benthic foraminifera, etc. These quiet-environment "shells", breakdown very easily on a high energy beach.

Response: Do not concur. The "whole or" was generally referring to the gravel sized material. The sand-sized carbonate is controlled by the total carbonate content.

(b) Test carbonates for durability by requiring a tumble barrel test with quartz included in the barrel, to simulate abrasion on the beach itself. Evaluate remaining material.

Response: Do not concur. The tumble barrel test is not an ASTM test and could not be found within other institutional testing standards. A certified lab was contacted and they had no knowledge of the test. The specs do describe what durable and solid carbonate grains are based on the definition, a percentage can be obtained from the grain size analysis. The specs require 90% durability of the carbonate grains and it is stated that "Whole or broken mollusk shells from the beach environment are durable and solid carbonate grains".

(c) Prior to transportation the material should be wet separated at the quarry site to wash out 90% of the fine material that are less than 200 microns in size. Utilization of on-site retention ponds should greatly reduce turbidity during post-construction.

Response: Do not concur. The requirement of no more than 5% fines controls this concern. Washing the sand before delivery is impracticable for large quantities of sand, adding unreasonable cost to the sand. If required, we could give sand that is washed, mainly through the excavation process, a contractual advantage, similar to the coarser sand advantage, since many FL sand quarries are dredging in water filled pits.

(d) Modify the sieving requirements to specify that they be wet sieved, with the tap water (not distilled water) retained, decanted, dried and weighed so there is an accurate percentage of muds calculated. Carbonate muds when dry will sieve as grains and not as mud.

Response: Concur. The specs require sieving to be done using ASTM- D422 procedures which includes wet sieving of the coarse fraction. This will be reinforced in the specs.

(e) Require a settling tube analysis be conducted with the sieving analysis. This would show whether the non-quartz grains settle like quartz of the same size. The tube should be calibrated to quartz grains at 20 microns vs. the 62 micron standard. Sediments less than 20 microns are more likely to remain in suspension longer and are easily re-suspended.

Response: Do not concur. Settling tube analysis does have its advantages of equivalent grain size determination, but does not have any standards. Trying to achieve results of less than 1 % passing 20 microns is difficult considering 1 % or more can easily be attributed to procedure error. The results vary based on equipment and researcher and are not comparable to sieving. The specs have attempted to adhere to engineering and mining industry standards and they understand sieving. The specs currently allow 5 % passing 74 microns, which is

less than anything we have placed from the offshore borrow areas. Data from sampling the original native beach from the 1975 Corps of Engineers GDM has shown that in water deeper than -15.00 feet, up to 70 % of the material was finer than 20 microns. Sediment at this depth is stirred up during storms or high-energy events as is mentioned as a concern for time of sediment suspension. It does not make sense to request a requirement of 1 % passing 20 microns when up to 70% occurs naturally in the nearshore. We believe requiring the fill to be less than 1% passing 20 microns is excessive and are not in favor of requiring settling tube analysis to meet these requirements.

(f) Require a final 0.5 or 1.0% silt content equal to or less than 20 microns as opposed to the 5% in the current specification; this may be achieved if the above recommendations are implemented.

Response: Do not concur. See response 4e.

5. Restore a quartz dominated beach by limiting the percent carbonate to 30% to reflect the historic native beach composition.

Response: Do not concur. Two Corps of Engineer data sets from the early 1970's contained native beach information for Dade Co. The first report is the Dade County, FL, BEC, GDM, Phase 1, Appendix D. The native beach samples were taken in May 1974. The report does not give a total carbonate percent but it does give a percent shell for each sample taken. This gives a minimum carbonate content of the native beach, as it only looks at shell content. The shell content of the native beach varied from 1 – 91% with an average of 30%. Additional samples were taken in November of 1975 for the final GDM, sampling from the dune line to -18.0 feet along 9 profile lines. The shell content of the native beach varied from 1- 95 % with an average of 56 %. This gives reason to believe the native beach was more carbonate than quartz, supporting the 25 % quartz and 75 % carbonate estimate.

6. Add the #35 sieve (0.50 mm) to the sediment sieve analysis to give more precise grain size distribution.

Response: Do not concur. The specs call for the average mean grain size to be greater than or equal to 0.30 mm and less than 0.55mm. This is the range for an average mean grain size. The specs already include 3 out of 12 sieves that bracket this range, they are the # 30, 40 and 50 sieves. The Method of Moments is being used to obtain the mean grain size of the sample. This method takes into account all points along the curve, which will give an accurate distribution with the current sieve selection. While there is no question that the #35 sieve would give more a more precise distribution, it is our position that the average grain size range is adequately represented with the existing sieve set and that additional sieves are not necessary.

7. Prior to the final site selection of the upland sand source, the Service requests to review the sediment data obtained from the candidate sites. In addition, the Service requests the opportunity to provide our recommendations and site preference.

Response: The Corps of Engineers can provide information on the sediment data obtained from the candidate sites for the Service's information, but not for approval. Approval of any of the candidate sites is contingent upon the representative sand samples meeting the requirements of the plans and specifications, as determined by our office.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA



Post-it® Fax Note	7671	Date	# of pages ▶ 2
To	Richard Bonner	From	Carlos Espinosa
Co./Dept.	Corps of Eng.	Co.	DERM
Phone #		Phone #	305/372-6796
Fax #	904/232-1213	Fax #	305/372-6759

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
 OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
 33 S.W. 2nd AVENUE
 MIAMI, FLORIDA 33130-1540
 (305) 372-6754
 FAX (305) 372-6759

June 15, 2000

Mr. Richard Bonner
 Deputy District Engineer
 For Project Management
 Jacksonville District Corps of Engineers
 400 West Bay Street
 Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019

RE: Sustainability of renourishment Test Beach

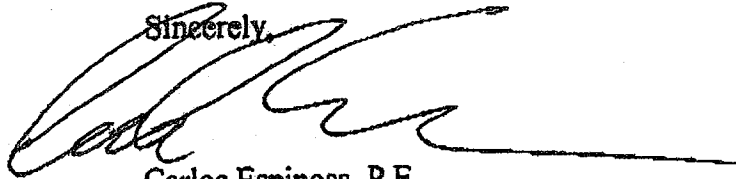
Dear Mr. Bonner,

This is to respond to your letter dated June 13th, 2000 regarding your discussions with my staff as to whether to pursue the completion of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Sustainability Test Beach in order to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements for this project. As you know we have worked closely with the Corps and other agencies over a number of years to plan and implement this important project, which we view as a critical step in identifying a long-term sand source for future Miami-Dade county shore protection. Also, while we hope to address the most critically eroded portions of the Test Beach project site by adding it to the upcoming Sunny Isles design Modification Project, we feel that completing the renourishment of the remaining 6,500' of shoreline in the Test Beach area is also a critical priority.

It was our initial understanding that due to the nature of the proposed Test Beach project, that it would be necessary to complete an EIS to fulfill NEPA requirements. If, however, it has been determined by your office that an EA will be sufficient for NEPA compliance, and will allow the Test Beach to be constructed on its current schedule of January 2001, then we would request that the Corps proceed with the completion of the EA as expeditiously as possible. I want to make it abundantly clear that it is your decision and we respect your judgement as to what NEPA process is appropriate. Our primary goal is to accomplish these much delayed projects as soon as possible by whatever means you feel is appropriate.

As always, our staff is available to assist you wherever needed to meet our common objective of restoring the beaches in Sunny Isles and Miami Beach. Please contact me if you have any questions or need any additional information on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carlos Espinosa', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Carlos Espinosa, P.E.
Assistant Director



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P. O. BOX 4970
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32232-0019

JUN 13 2000

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

Programs and Project Management Division
Project Management Branch

Mr. Carlos Espinosa, P.E.
Assistant Director
Department of Environmental
Resources Management
Metropolitan Dade County
Suite 500
33 SW. 2nd Avenue
Miami, Florida 33130-1540

Dear Mr. *Carlos* Espinosa:

This is to request confirmation that your office requests an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) be prepared for the upcoming renourishment of north Miami Beach in fiscal year 2001 as part of the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project. This renourishment area is also known as the sustainability of renourishment test beach.

As you know, our office is in the process of preparing the plans and specifications (P&S) for this contract. In order to accommodate the addition of the option to renourish the 63rd Street area of north Miami Beach as part of the upcoming Sunny Isles Modification contract, our staff has recently had to dedicate additional time to preparing the additional P&S for the option portion.

Our office had recently decided that an EIS would not be necessary for the sustainability of renourishment test beach. This subject was discussed during the telephone conversation on June 2, 2000, with Mr. Brian Flynn. Mr. Flynn indicated that your office wanted an EIS to be prepared. In order to accommodate preparation of the EIS and inclusion of the option to renourish the 63rd Street area of the upcoming contract this year, contract award for the sustainability of renourishment test beach area will be delayed from January 2001 until September 2001.

Please provide a letter confirming that your office desires our office to proceed with preparation of the EIS and acknowledge that you agree with the schedule delay.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at 904-232-2582, or Mr. Charles Stevens, Project Manager, at 904-232-2113.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Richard E. Bonner", written in a cursive style.

Richard E. Bonner, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer
for Project Management



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

South Florida Ecosystem Office

P.O. Box 2676

Vero Beach, Florida 32961-2676

September 8, 1999

Mr. James C. Duck
Chief, Planning Division
P.O. Box 4970
Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019

Re: Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project

Dear Mr. Duck:

The Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has reviewed the revised project plans to include an additional half mile of shoreline and the use of an upland sand source for the Dade County Beach Erosion Control Project, as outlined in your July 13, 1999, letter. The original scope of work proposed to deposit non-domestic oolitic aragonite along a mile-long stretch of shoreline in Miami Beach, Miami-Dade County, Florida. This draft report is submitted in accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Service Coordination Act of 1958, as amended (16 U.S.C. 661 *et seq.*).

In the Conference Report for FY 1999 appropriations, Congress directed that none of the funds provided for the Dade County Project shall be used for the acquisition of foreign source materials for the project unless the Secretary of the Army provides written certification to the Committees on Appropriations that domestic sources of materials are not available. Due to these circumstances, the Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) changed the source material from aragonite to an unidentified domestic upland sand source.

The proposed site is located along northern Miami Beach and will extend along approximately 1.5 miles of shoreline. The total volume of the fill is expected to be approximately 600,000 cubic yards. The proposed location for the test fill is between 83rd and 63rd Streets in Miami Beach (DEP monuments R-36 to R-47). The effects on fish and wildlife resources of depositing suitable fill along the proposed project area should be insignificant. The ocean bottom in the area offshore of the site is reported by Miami-Dade County biologists to be barren sand. The nearest hard bottom reef is located approximately 1/4 mile offshore according to the reef maps for the Corps' Coast of Florida Erosion and Storm Effects Study, Region III. In addition, as no dredging offshore in waters of the United States will be required to obtain fill for this project, dredging effects normally associated with beach project construction will be eliminated.

The COE devised Generic Sand Specifications for Beach Nourishment projects to be sent out to contractors for use during the bid process. The Service does not object to this project, as proposed, but offers the following comments regarding the sand specifications.

Page 3, Submittals: In addition to the information required to be included with the source information, the Service recommends a soil chemical analysis also be provided to indicate the sand is free of hazardous, toxic, and radioactive waste.

Upland sites: Upland sites will need review to determine that no additional threatened and endangered species will be affected by the excavation activities.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide these comments. Should you require further clarification or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Trish Adams at (561) 562-3909, extension 232.

Sincerely yours,



For James J. Slack
Project Leader
South Florida Field Office

cc:

NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
FWC, Vero Beach, FL
DEP, Tallahassee, FL



STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

"Helping Floridians create safe, vibrant, sustainable communities"

JEB BUSH
Governor

STEVEN M. SEIBERT
Secretary

July 29, 1999

Mr. James C. Duck
Department of the Army
Jacksonville District Corps of Engineers
Post Office Box 4970
Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019

RE: Department of the Army - Notification of Intent to
Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the
Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane
Protection Project
SAI: FL9905240381C

Dear Mr. Duck:

The Florida State Clearinghouse, pursuant to Presidential Executive Order 12372, Gubernatorial Executive Order 95-359, the Coastal Zone Management Act, 16 U.S.C. §§ 1451-1464, as amended, and the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 4321, 4331-4335, 4341-4347, as amended, has coordinated a review of the above-referenced project.

The Department of State (DOS) notes that the proposed project will not adversely impact any historic properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places. Regarding the fill material-borrow area, the DOS notes that the sand will come from a domestic upland source to be determined by the Corps. Since the sand borrow source will be located within the State of Florida's jurisdiction, the Corps will be coordinating with the DOS. Provided that the applicant concurs with this condition, the proposed activities will be consistent with the historic preservation laws of Florida's Coastal Management Program. Please refer to the enclosed DOS comments.

Based on the information contained in the notification of intent and the enclosed comments provided by our reviewing

2555 SHUMARD OAK BOULEVARD • TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-2100
Phone: (850) 488-8466/Suncom 278-8466 FAX: (850) 921-0781/Suncom 291-0781
Internet address: <http://www.state.fl.us/comaff/>

FLORIDA KEYS
Area of Critical State Concern Field Office
2796 Overseas Highway, Suite 212
Marathon, Florida 33050-2227

GREEN SWAMP
Area of Critical State Concern Field Office
205 East Main Street, Suite 104
Bartow, Florida 33830-4641

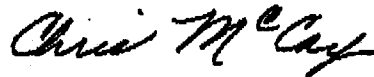
Mr. James C. Duck
July 29, 1999
Page Two

agencies, the state has determined that, at this stage, the above-referenced project is consistent with the Florida Coastal Management Program. Comments received to date from the reviewing agencies are enclosed for your review. Comments subsequently received by the Clearinghouse will be forwarded for your consideration.

In addition, the South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC) has identified the policies and goals of its Strategic Regional Policy Plan which may apply to the proposed activity. The comments provided by the SFRPC are enclosed for your review and consideration.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Ms. Cherie Trainor, Clearinghouse Coordinator, at (850) 922-5438.

Sincerely,



Ralph Cantral, Executive Director
Florida Coastal Management Program

RC/cc

Enclosures

cc: George Percy, Department of State
Eric Silva, South Florida Regional Planning Council

COUNTY: Miami-Dade

COMMENTS DUE-3 WKS:

06/16/1999

CLEARANCE DUE DATE:

07/08/1999

Message:

SAI#:

FL9905240381C

STATE AGENCIES

Agriculture
Community Affairs
X Environmental Protection
Game and Fresh Water Fish Comm
Marine Fisheries Commission
OTTED
State
Transportation

WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS

South Florida WMD
St. Johns River WMD

OPB POLICY UNITS

Environmental Policy/C & ED

The attached document requires a Coastal Zone Management Act/Florida Coastal Management Program consistency evaluation and is categorized as one of the following:

- Federal Assistance to State or Local Government (15 CFR 930, Subpart F). Agencies are required to evaluate the consistency of the activity.
- X Direct Federal Activity (15 CFR 930, Subpart C). Federal Agencies are required to furnish a consistency determination for the State's concurrence or objection.
- Outer Continental Shelf Exploration, Development or Production Activities (15 CFR 930, Subpart E). Operators are required to provide a consistency certification for state concurrence/objection.
- Federal Licensing or Permitting Activity (15 CFR 930, Subpart D). Such projects will only be evaluated for consistency when there is not an analogous state license or permit.

Project Description:

Department of the Army - Notification of Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project.

To: Florida State Clearinghouse
Department of Community Affairs
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100
(850) 922-5438 (SC 292-6438)
(850) 414-0479 (FAX)

EO: 12372/NEPA

Federal Consistency

- ☐ No Comment
- ☒ Comments Attached
- ☐ Not Applicable

- ☒ No Comment/Consistent
- ☐ Consistent/Comments Attached
- ☐ Inconsistent/Comments Attached
- ☐ Not Applicable

From:

Division/Bureau:

Reviewer:

Date:

OLGA / OPA

Robert W. H. H. H.

7/22/99

COMMENT DUE-2 WKS:

06/09/1999

CLEARANCE DUE DATE:

07/08/1999

SAI#:

FL99052403810

Message:

STATE AGENCIES

WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS

OPB POLICY UNITS

Agriculture
Community Affairs
Environmental Protection
X Game and Fresh Water Fish Comm
Marine Fisheries Commission
OTTED
State
Transportation

South Florida WMD
St. Johns River WMD

Environmental Policy/C & ED

RECEIVED
MAY 28 1999
Office of Florida Coordination

RECEIVED BY GFC
MAY 27 1999
OFFICE OF
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

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(850) 414-0479 (FAX)

EO. 12372/NEPA

Federal Consistency

☒ No Comment
☐ Comments Attached
☐ Not Applicable

☒ No Comment/Consistent
☐ Consistent/Comments Attached
☐ Inconsistent/Comments Attached
☐ Not Applicable

From:

Division/Bureau: ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
BRIAN BARNETT

Reviewer:

Date: 5/27/99

COMMENTS DUE-2 WKS:

06/09/1999

CLEARANCE DUE DATE:

07/08/1999

SAI#:

FL9905240381

Message:

STATE AGENCIES

Agriculture
Community Affairs
Environmental Protection
Game and Fresh Water Fish Comm
X Marine Fisheries Commission
OTTED
State
Transportation

WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS

South Florida WMD
St. Johns River WMD

OPB POLICY UNITS

Environmental Policy/C & ED

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JUN 04 1999

State of Florida Clearinghouse

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EO. 12372/NEPA

Federal Consistency

- ☐ No Comment
☐ Comments Attached
☐ Not Applicable

- ☐ No Comment/Consistent
☐ Consistent/Comments Attached
☐ Inconsistent/Comments Attached
☒ Not Applicable

From:

Division/Bureau

Reviewer:

Date:

Ruby S. [Signature]
6/2/99

COMMENT DUE-2 WKS:

06/09/1999

CLEARANCE DUE DATE:

07/08/1999

SAI#:

FL99052403810

Message:

STATE AGENCIES

WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS

OPB POLICY UNITS

Agriculture
Community Affairs
Environmental Protection
Game and Fresh Water Fish Comm
Marine Fisheries Commission

X OTTED

State
Transportation

South Florida WMD
St. Johns River WMD

Environmental Policy/C & ED

RECEIVED
JUN 03 1999

State of Florida Clearinghouse

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EO. 12372/NEPA

Federal Consistency

☒ No Comment
☐ Comments Attached
☐ Not Applicable

☒ No Comment/Consistent
☐ Consistent/Comments Attached
☐ Inconsistent/Comments Attached
☐ Not Applicable

From:

Division/Bureau: OTTED

Reviewer: M. Pinkerton

Date: 6/1/99

Office of the Secretary
Office of International Relations
Division of Elections
Division of Corporations
Division of Cultural Affairs
Division of Historical Resources
Division of Library and Information Services
Division of Licensing
Division of Administrative Services



State Board of Education
Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund
Administration Commission
Florida Land and Water Adjudication Commission
Siting Board
Division of Bond Finance
Department of Revenue
Department of Law Enforcement
Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles
Department of Veterans Affairs

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Katherine Harris
Secretary of State

DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES

June 9, 1999

Ms. Cherie Trainor
State Clearinghouse
Department of Community Affairs
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2100

JUN 11 1999

State of Florida Clearinghouse

RE: DHR Project File No. 993853
Cultural Resource Assessment Request
SAI# FL9905240381
Notification of Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the
Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project
Dade County, Florida

Dear Ms. Trainor:

In accordance with the provisions of Florida's Coastal Zone Management Act and Chapter 267, *Florida Statutes*, as well as the procedures contained in 36 C.F.R., Part 800 ("Protection of Historic Properties"), we have reviewed the referenced project(s) for possible impact to historic properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the *National Register of Historic Places*, or otherwise of historical or architectural value.

For the beach renourishment areas, a review of the Florida Master Site File indicates that no significant archaeological or historical sites are recorded for or likely to be present within the project area. Furthermore, because of the project location and/or nature it is unlikely that any such sites will be affected. Therefore, it is the opinion of this office that the proposed project will have no effect on historic properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the *National Register of Historic Places*.

For the fill material-borrow area, we note that the sand will be coming from a domestic upland source to be determined by the Jacksonville District Corps of Engineers. Since the sand borrow source is located within the State of Florida's jurisdiction, the Corps will be coordinating with our office.

R.A. Gray Building • 500 South Bronough Street • Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250 • <http://www.flheritage.com>

<input type="checkbox"/> Director's Office (850) 488-1480 • FAX: 488-3355	<input type="checkbox"/> Archaeological Research (850) 487-2299 • FAX: 414-2207	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic Preservation (850) 487-2333 • FAX: 922-0496	<input type="checkbox"/> Historical Museums (850) 488-1484 • FAX: 921-2503
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic Pensacola Preservation Board (850) 595-5965 • FAX: 595-5969	<input type="checkbox"/> Palm Beach Regional Office (561) 279-1475 • FAX: 279-1476	<input type="checkbox"/> St. Augustine Regional Office (904) 825-5045 • FAX: 825-5044	<input type="checkbox"/> Tampa Regional Office (813) 272-3843 • FAX: 272-2340

Ms. Trainor
June 9, 1999
Page 2

Provided the applicant concurs with the condition, the proposed activities will be consistent with the historic preservation laws of Florida's Coastal Management Program.

If you have any questions concerning our comments, please contact Scott Edwards, Historic Preservation Planner, at 850-487-2333 or 800-847-7278. Your interest in protecting Florida's historic properties is appreciated.

Sincerely,



George W. Percy, Director
Division of Historical Resources
and
State Historic Preservation Officer

GWP/Ese

xc: Jasmin Raffington, FCMP-DCA

COMMENTS DUE-2 WKS:

06/09/1999

CLEARANCE DUE DATE:

07/08/1999

SAI#:

FL990524038

Message:

STATE AGENCIES

Agriculture
Community Affairs
Environmental Protection
Game and Fresh Water Fish Comm
Marine Fisheries Commission
OTTED
State
Transportation

WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS

South Florida WMD
X St. Johns River WMD

OPB POLICY UNITS

Environmental Policy/C & ED

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State of Florida Clearinghouse

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Project Description:

Department of the Army - Notification of Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project.

To: Florida State Clearinghouse
Department of Community Affairs
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100
(850) 922-5438 (SC 292-5438)
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EO. 12372/NEPA

Federal Consistency

☐ No Comment
☐ Comments Attached
☐ Not Applicable

☐ No Comment/Consistent
☐ Consistent/Comments Attached
☐ Inconsistent/Comments Attached
☐ Not Applicable

NOT IN SJRWMD

From:

Division/Bureau: SJRWMD/OAPReviewer: K. Delaney 6/1/99

Date: _____

Message:

COMMENT DUE - 2 WKS:

06/09/1999

CLEARANCE DUE DATE:

07/08/1999

SAI#:

FL9905240381

STATE AGENCIES

Agriculture
Community Affairs
Environmental Protection
Game and Fresh Water Fish Comm
Marine Fisheries Commission
OTTED
State
Transportation

WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS

South Florida WMD
St Johns River WMD

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JUN 08 1999
State of Florida Clearinghouse

OPB POLICY UNITS

X Environmental Policy/C & ED

RECEIVED

MAY 28 1999

OFFICE OF PLANNING
& BUDGETING
ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY UNIT

The attached document requires a Coastal Zone Management Act/Florida Coastal Management Program consistency evaluation and is categorized as one of the following:

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Project Description:

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To: Florida State Clearinghouse
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EO. 12372/NEPA

Federal Consistency

- ☒ No Comment
- ☐ Comments Attached..
- ☐ Not Applicable

- ☐ No Comment/Consistent
- ☐ Consistent/Comments Attached
- ☐ Inconsistent/Comments Attached
- ☐ Not Applicable

From:

Division/Bureau:

OPB - Env.

Reviewer:

Carliana J. Ch...

Date:

6-7-98

South
Florida
Regional
Planning
Council



June 22, 1999

RECEIVED
JUN 25 1999

State of Florida Clearinghouse

VIA FACSIMILE & MAIL

Ms. Cherie Trainor
Florida State Clearinghouse
Department of Community Affairs
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

RE: SFRPC #99-0561, SAI #FL9905240381C - Response to a request for comments on the Notice of Intent to prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, City of Miami Beach, Miami-Dade County.

Dear Ms. Trainor:

We have reviewed the above-referenced project and have the following comments:

- The project methodology and design, as proposed, is generally consistent with the goals and policies of the *Strategic Regional Policy Plan for South Florida (SRPP)*. Council staff recognizes that offshore borrow sources along Miami-Dade County are nearly depleted and that future erosion control projects will require alternative sand sources.
- Beaches and dune systems are identified as natural resources of regional significance in the SRPP. Staff supports the use of buffer zones to protect these important resources. Sand movement and downdrift erosion should be monitored on a region wide basis to ensure the livelihood of wildlife habitats and the stability of the project area. All actions should be consistent with the goals and policies of the City of Miami Beach comprehensive plan.
- Staff recommends that, if the proposed actions are implemented, 1) impacts to the natural systems be minimized to the greatest extent feasible and 2) the permit grantor determine the extent of sensitive marine life and vegetative communities in the vicinity of each project and require protection and or mitigation of disturbed habitat. These guidelines will assist in reducing the cumulative impacts to native plants and animals, wetlands and deep water habitat and fisheries that the goals and policies of the *Strategic Regional Policy Plan for South Florida* seek to protect.
- The goals and policies of the *Strategic Regional Policy Plan for South Florida*, in particular those indicated below, should be observed when making decisions regarding this project.

Strategic Regional Goal

- 3.1 Eliminate the inappropriate uses of land by improving the land use designations and utilize land acquisition where necessary so that the quality and connectedness of Natural Resources of Regional Significance and suitable high quality natural areas is improved.

3440 Hollywood Boulevard, Suite 140, Hollywood, Florida 33021
Broward (954) 985-4416, Area Codes 305, 407 and 561 (800) 985-4416
SunCom 473-4416, FAX (954) 985-4417, SunCom FAX 473-4417
e-mail sfadmin@sfrpc.com

Regional Policies

- 3.1.9 Degradation or destruction of Natural Resources of Regional Significance, including listed species and their habitats will occur as a result of a proposed project only if :
- a) the activity is necessary to prevent or eliminate a public hazard, and
 - b) the activity is in the public interest and no other alternative exists, and
 - c) the activity does not destroy significant natural habitat, or identified natural resource values, and
 - d) the activity does not destroy habitat for threatened or endangered species, and
 - e) the activity does not negatively impact listed species that have been documented to use or rely upon the site.
- 3.1.10 Proposed projects shall include buffer zones between development and existing Natural Resources of Regional Significance and other suitable natural resources. The buffer zones shall provide natural habitat values and functions that compliment Natural Resources of Regional Significance values so that the natural system values of the site are not negatively impacted by adjacent uses. The buffer zones shall be a minimum of 25 feet in width. Alternative widths may be proposed if it is demonstrated that the alternative furthers the viability of the Natural Resource of Regional Significance, effectively separating the development impacts from the natural resource or contributing to reduced fragmentation of identified Natural Resources of Regional Significance.
- 3.1.11 Implement monitoring and maintenance of Natural Resources of Regional Significance and other suitable natural resources so that an Overall Positive Gain in quality and quantity of the Natural Resources of Regional Significance is achieved. The monitoring of the Natural Resources of Regional Significance shall be included on all projects that have not been demonstrated to not adversely impact the resource or associated listed species.
- 3.1.19 Uses of the land shall be consistent with the sustained ecological functioning of the Natural Resources of Regional Significance and suitable adjacent natural buffer areas and will be based upon the radius required to provide protection to the natural system and associated inhabitants. The radius will vary in size depending upon the resource or species that is to be protected.

Strategic Regional Goal

- 3.8 Enhance and preserve natural system values of South Florida's shorelines, estuaries, benthic communities, fisheries, and associated habitats, including but not limited to, Florida Bay, Biscayne Bay and the coral reef tract.

Regional Policies

- 3.8.1 Enhance and preserve natural shoreline characteristics through requirements resulting from the review of proposed projects and in the implementation of ICE, including but not limited to, mangroves, beaches and dunes through prohibition of structural shoreline stabilization methods except to protect existing navigation channels, maintain reasonable riparian access, or allow an activity in the public interest as determined by applicable state and federal permitting criteria.

Ms. Cherie Trainor

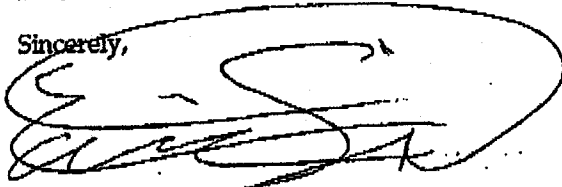
June 22, 1999

Page 3

- 3.8.2 Enhance and preserve benthic communities, including but not limited to seagrass and shellfish beds, and coral habitats, by allowing only that dredge and fill activity, artificial shading of habitat areas, or destruction from boats that is the least amount practicable, and by encouraging permanent mooring facilities. Dredge and fill activities may occur on submerged lands in the Florida Keys only as permitted by the Monroe County Land Development Regulations. It must be demonstrated pursuant to the review of the proposed project features that the activities included in the proposed project do not cause permanent, adverse natural system impacts.
- 3.8.3 As a result of proposed project reviews, include conditions that result in a project that enhances and preserves marine and estuarine water quality by:
- a) improving the timing and quality of freshwater inflows;
 - b) reducing turbidity, nutrient loading and bacterial loading from wastewater facilities and vessels;
 - c) reducing the number of improperly maintained stormwater systems; and
 - d) requiring port facilities and marinas to implement hazardous materials spill plans.
- 3.8.4 Enhance and preserve commercial and sports fisheries through monitoring, research, best management practices for fish harvesting and protection of nursery habitat and include the resulting information in educational programs throughout the region. Identified nursery habitat shall be protected through the inclusion of suitable habitat protective features including, but not limited to:
- a) avoidance of project impacts within habitat area;
 - b) replacement of habitat area impacted by proposed project; or
 - c) improvement of remaining habitat area within remainder of proposed project area.
- 3.8.5 Enhance and preserve habitat for endangered and threatened marine species by the preservation of identified endangered species habitat and populations. For threatened species or species of critical concern, on-site preservation will be required unless it is demonstrated that off-site mitigation will not adversely impact the viability or number of individuals of the species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. We would appreciate being kept informed on the progress of this project. Please do not hesitate to call if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely,



Eric Silva
Senior Planner

ES/cp

cc: Dean J. Grandin Jr., City of Miami Beach
Jean Evoy, DERM



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

South Florida Ecosystem Office

P.O. Box 2676

Vero Beach, Florida 32961-2676

June 4, 1999

James C. Duck, Chief
Planning Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Jacksonville District
P.O. Box 4970
Jacksonville, Florida 32232

Dear Mr. Duck:

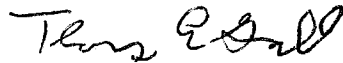
The Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) received your April 29, 1999 letter requesting concurrence that the determination for the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project Biological Assessment (BA) and conditions for the Biological Opinion (BO) remain the same as they were in 1998. This request follows Congressional alteration of the project by denying use of foreign sand sources and expanding the test fill site. The Service concurs that the 1998 BA and BO still apply to the project.

At Congress's behest, foreign source sands are disallowed for the project unless the Secretary of the Army provides certification to the Appropriations Committees that no domestic sources are available. Therefore, instead of imported aragonite, the project sand is now to be obtained from a domestic upland source. In addition, the fill area was expanded by Congress: the site was from 83rd to 63rd streets and now is from 80th to 65th streets. The Service concurs that both of these alterations are covered by the existing BA's may affect determination and that the potential adverse effects on sea turtles has been addressed in the BO for the Coast of Florida Study, Region III (FWS Log No. 4-1-96-268).

The Service agrees that sand sources will need to meet a set of generic sand specifications and pass a screening process for sand characteristics. In addition, the Service is concerned with the locations of the sand source. Upland sites will need review to ascertain that no additional threatened and endangered species such as the Florida scrub-jay (*Aphelocoma coerulescens*) or other protected species are impacted.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Dawn Whitehead at (561) 562-3909, extension 231.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas E. Slack". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Thomas" and last name "Slack" clearly distinguishable.

~~For~~ James J. Slack,
Project Leader,
South Florida Field Office

cc: Sandy MacPherson, FWS, Jacksonville



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P. O. BOX 4970
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32232-0019

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

Planning Division
Environmental Branch

MAY 18 1999

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This Office intends to prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project. The DEIS will address a proposed test beach fill on a portion of Miami Beach. The sand to be used for the test fill would come from a domestic upland source to be determined from prospective contractor proposals based on a sand specification by the Jacksonville District.

I have enclosed a copy of the Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare the subject DEIS which was published in the Federal Register on May 6, 1999.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "James C. Duck", is written over the typed name.

James C. Duck
Chief, Planning Division

Enclosure

ADDRESSES: Interested persons should submit their views and comments to Jean A. Webb, Secretary, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street, NW Washington, DC 20581. In addition, comments may be sent by facsimile transmission to facsimile number (202) 418-5521, or by electronic mail to secretary@cftc.gov. Reference should be made to the KCBT western natural gas index futures contract.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Please contact Joseph Storer of the Division of Economic Analysis, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street NW, Washington, DC 20581, telephone (202) 418-5282. Facsimile number: (202) 418-5527. Electronic mail: jstorer@cftc.gov

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The proposed designation application was submitted pursuant to the Commission's Fast Track procedures for streamlining the review of futures contract rule amendments and new contract approvals (62 FR 10434). Under those procedures, the proposal, absent any contrary action by the Commission, may be deemed approved at the close of business on June 7, 1999, 45 days after receipt of the proposal. In view of the limited review period under the Fast Track procedures, the Commission has determined to publish for public comment notice of the availability of the terms and conditions for 15 days, rather than 30 days as provided for proposals submitted under the regular review procedures.

Copies of the proposed contract terms will be available for inspection at the Office of the Secretariat, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street NW, Washington, DC 20581. Copies can be obtained through the Office of the Secretariat by mail at the above address, by phone at (202) 418-5100, or via the internet on the CFTC website at www.cftc.gov under "What's New & Pending".

Other materials submitted by the KCBT in support of the proposal may be available upon request pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Commission's regulations thereunder (17 CFR Part 145 (1997)), except to the extent they are entitled to confidential treatment as set forth in 17 CFR 145.5 and 145.9. Requests for copies of such materials should be made to the FOI, Privacy and Sunshine Act Compliance Staff of the Office of Secretariat at the Commission's headquarters in accordance with 17 CFR 145.7 and 145.8.

Any person interested in submitting written data, views, or arguments on the proposal, or with respect to other materials submitted by the KCBT, should send such comments to Jean A. Webb, Secretary, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 21st Street NW, Washington, DC 20581 by the specified date.

Issued in Washington, DC, on April 28, 1999.

John R. Mielke,

Acting Director.

[FR Doc. 99-11322 Filed 5-5-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6351-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel (DAPE-ZXI-RM), DoD.

ACTION: Notice.

In compliance with section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Department of the Army announces a proposed public information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Consideration will be given to all comments received by July 6, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed information collection should be sent to the United States Total Army Personnel Command, ATTN: TAPC-OPD-C (Annette Bush), 200 Stovall Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22332-0413. Consideration will be given to all comments received within 60 days of the date of publication of this notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request more information on this proposed information collection or to obtain a copy of the proposal and associated collection instruments, please write to the above address, or call

Department of the Army Reports clearance officer at (703) 614-0454.

Title, Associated Form, and OMB

Number: Application and Contract for Establishment of a Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps Unit, DA Form 3126, OMB Number 0702-0021.

Needs and Uses: The DA Form 3126 will be initiated by the school desiring to host a unit and countersigned by a representative of the Secretary of the Army. The contract (DA Form 3126) is necessary to establish a mutual agreement between the secondary institution and the U.S. Government while keeping within the parameters of the law. The data provided on the application is used to determine which school will be selected.

Affected Public: State, Local or Tribal Government.

Annual Burden Hours: 70.

Number of Respondents: 70.

Responses Per Respondent: 1.

Average Burden Per Response: 1 hour.

Frequency: On occasion.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Educational institutions desiring to host a Junior ROTC unit may apply by using a DA Form 3126. The DA Form 3126 documents the agreement and becomes a contract signed by both the institution and the U.S. Government. The DA Form 3126 provides information on the school's facilities and states specific conditions if a JROTC unit is placed at the institution. The data provided on the application is used to determine which school will be selected.

Gregory D. Showalter,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 99-11411 Filed 5-5-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-08-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Corps of Engineers

Department of the Army

Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project, for a Test Beach Fill Using a Domestic Upland Sand Source Based on a Generic Sand Specification

AGENCY: Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Defense.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The Jacksonville District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers intends to prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project, for a Test Beach Fill using a domestic upland sand source.

The source of sand will be determined from prospective contractor proposals based on a generic sand specification developed by the Jacksonville District. The study is a cooperative effort between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Dade County Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM), the non-Federal sponsor for the project.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kenneth Dugger, 904-232-1686, Environmental Branch, Planning Division, PO Box 4970, Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection (BEC & HP) Project for Dade County, Florida was authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1968. The authorized project provides for the nourishment of 9.3 miles of shoreline between Government Cut and Bakers Haulover Inlet and for the nourishment of 1.2 miles of shoreline at Haulover Beach Park. The Supplemental Appropriations Act of 1985 and the Water Resources Development Act 1986 (Pub. L. 99-662) provided authority for extending the northern limit of the authorized project to include the construction of protective beach along the 2.5 mile reach of shoreline north of Haulover Beach Park (Sunny Isles) and for periodic nourishment of the of the overall project for 50 years.

Offshore borrow sources of beach quality sediment along the Dade County shoreline have been almost completely depleted, and alternative sources of material will be required in the near future to provide continued renourishment of the project. Although sediment from offshore borrow sites has traditionally been used for project renourishment, the use of sand from other sources may provide an effective alternative for future renourishment requirements.

The purpose of the test fill, in addition to providing nourishment to an eroded portion of the Federal project along northern Miami Beach, is to evaluate the economic, engineering and environmental performance of an upland sand source on the beach erosion control project.

The proposed test fill site would be located along northern Miami Beach, and would extend along approximately 1.5 miles of shoreline which has been an erosional area since the project was constructed. The proposed site is located far from adjacent inlets, and no significant structures exist in this vicinity to disrupt the "natural" coastal processes. The total volume of the test fill is expected to be approximately

600,000 cubic yards. The currently proposed location for the test fill is between 83rd and 63rd Streets in Miami Beach (DEP monuments R-36 to R-47). The exact source of sand for the test beach would be determined during the procurement process. Sand sources proposed by contractors would have to meet a set of generic sand specifications and pass a screening process for sand characteristics and potential environmental impacts.

In order to evaluate the performance of the test fill, a monitoring program will be established. The monitoring program would consist of physical surveys, sediment sampling and analysis, and aerial photography. In addition, environmental monitoring of the test fill would be performed. The environmental studies would focus mainly on the impacts of the material on sea turtle nesting and benthic infaunal communities.

Alternatives: At this time, the only known alternative to performing the test beach fill is not performing the test or the no-action alternative.

Issues: The EIS will consider impacts on coral reefs and other hardbottom communities, endangered and threatened species, shore protection, water quality, aesthetics and recreation, fish and wildlife resources, cultural resources, energy conservation, socio-economic resources, and other impacts identified through scoping, public involvement, and interagency coordination.

Scoping: A copy of this notice will be sent to interested parties to initiate scoping. All parties are invited to participate in the scoping process by identifying any additional concerns on issues, studies needed, alternatives, procedures, and other matters related to the scoping process. At this time, there are no plans for a public scoping meeting.

Public Involvement: We invite the participation of affected Federal, state and local agencies, affected Indian tribes, and other interested private organizations and parties.

Coordination: The proposed action is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the National Marine Fisheries Service under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, with the FWS under the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, and with the State Historic Preservation Officer. In addition, we have coordinated with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, the dredging industry, academic experts, and other interests on this matter.

Other Environmental Review and Consultation: The proposed action

would involve evaluation for compliance with guidelines pursuant to section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act; application (to the State of Florida) for Water Quality Certification pursuant to section 401 of the Clean Water Act; certification of state lands, easements, and rights of way; and determination of Coastal Zone Management Act consistency.

Agency Role: As the non-Federal sponsor and leading local expert; DERM will provide extensive information and assistance on the resources to be impacted, mitigation measures, and alternatives.

DEIS Preparation: It is estimated that the DEIS will be available to the public on or about July 16, 1999. We plan to post the DEIS on the environmental documents page of the Jacksonville District's web site (<http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/pd/env-doc.htm>).

Dated: April 22, 1999.

James C. Duck,

Chief, Planning Division.

[FR Doc. 99-11409 Filed 5-5-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-AJ-M

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Federal Interagency Coordinating Council Meeting (FICC)

AGENCY: Federal Interagency Coordinating Council, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of a public meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice describes the schedule and agenda of a forthcoming meeting of the Federal Interagency Coordinating Council, and invites people to participate. Notice of this meeting is required under section 644(c) of the Reauthorization Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and is intended to notify the general public of their opportunity to attend this meeting. The meeting will be accessible to individuals with disabilities.

DATE AND TIME: Thursday, June 10, 1999, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

ADDRESS: Holiday Inn, 550 C Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20202, near the Federal Center Southwest and L'Enfant metro stops.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Libby Doggett or Kim Lawrence, U.S. Department of Education, 330 C Street, SW, Room 3080, Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202-2644. Telephone: (202) 205-5507. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call (202) 205-9754.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Southeast Regional Office
9721 Executive Center Drive North
St. Petersburg, FL 33702
(727) 570-5312; FAX 570-5517

APR 29 1999

F/SER3:BH

Mr. James C. Duck
Chief, Planning Division
Environmental Studies Section
Jacksonville District Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 4970
Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019

Dear Mr. Duck:

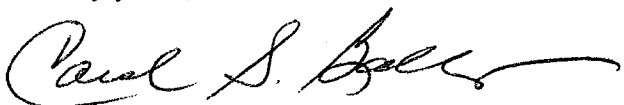
This is in reference to your letter dated April 22, 1999 in regards to changes to the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project (DCBECHP). The changes to this project include changing the source of material from aragonite to a domestic upland sand source, the site has been expanded to include approximately 1.5 miles of additional shoreline, and an additional 600,000 cubic yards of fill will be used.

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) completed informal consultation under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) for this project on July 15, 1998 finding that the completion of the DCBECHP was not likely to affect species protected by the ESA. The proposed changes to the project are not expected to change this finding.

This concludes Jacksonville District's consultation responsibilities under section 7 of the ESA for the proposed changes to the DCBECHP for species under NMFS purview. Consultation should be reinitiated if new information reveals impacts of the identified activity that may affect listed species or their critical habitat, a new species is listed, the identified activity is subsequently modified or critical habitat determined that may be affected by the proposed activity.

If you have any questions, please call Bob Hoffman, Fishery Biologist, of my Protected Resources staff.

Sincerely yours,


Andrew J. Kemmerer
Regional Administrator

cc: F/PR3
FDEP - Moody



Planning Division
Environmental Branch

APR 29 1999

Mr. James J. Slack
South Florida Field Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Post Office Box 2676
Vero Beach, Florida 32961-2676

Dear Mr. Slack:

This is in reference to the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project. On June 5, 1998, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers submitted a Biological Assessment (BA) concerning a proposed test beach fill at Miami Beach, Florida using foreign source of aragonite. In a letter dated June 30, 1998, your office concurred with our determination that the proposed action may effect threatened and endangered sea turtles and that the potential adverse affect on sea turtles has been addressed in the Biological Opinion (BO) for the Coast of Florida Study, Region III (FWS Log No. 4-1-96-268).

In the Conference Report for FY 1999 appropriations, Congress directed that none of the funds provided for the Dade County, Florida, project shall be used for the acquisition of foreign source materials for the project unless the Secretary of the Army provides written certification to the Committees on Appropriations that domestic sources of materials are not available. Therefore, we are changing the source of material from aragonite to a domestic upland sand source.

In addition, the location of the proposed test fill site has been expanded to include approximately 1.5 miles of shoreline between 83rd and 63rd Streets (DEP monuments R-36 to R-47). The total volume of material required for the beach fill is now estimated to be 600,000 cubic yards. The exact source of the upland sand would be determined during the procurement process. Sand sources proposed by contractors would have to meet a set of generic sand specifications and pass a screening process for sand characteristics.

Except for the modifications mentioned above, none of the conditions in our June 5, 1998, BA has changed and our previous determination that the BO for the Coast of Florida Study covers proposed action remains the same.

Your concurrence on this matter is requested. If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Mr. Mike Dupes at 904-232-1689.

Sincerely,

James C. Duck
Chief, Planning Division

bcc:
CESAJ-DP-I

Planning Division
Environmental Branch

APR 22 1999

Mr. Charles A. Oravetz
Chief, Protected Species Management Branch
National Marine Fisheries Service
9721 Executive Center Drive North
St. Petersburg, Florida 33702

Dear Mr. Oravetz:

This is in reference to the *project* Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection. On June 19, 1998, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers submitted a Biological Assessment (BA) concerning a proposed test beach fill at Miami Beach, Florida using foreign source of aragonite. In a letter dated July 15, 1998, your office concurred with our determination that the proposed action will not adversely affect any listed endangered and threatened species under jurisdiction of the National Marine Fisheries Service.

In the Conference Report for FY 1999 appropriations, Congress directed that none of the funds provided for the Dade County, Florida, project shall be used for the acquisition of foreign source materials for the project unless the Secretary of the Army provides written certification to the Committees on Appropriations that domestic sources of materials are not available. Therefore, we are changing the source of material from aragonite to a domestic upland sand source.

In addition, the location of the proposed test fill site has been expanded to include approximately 1.5 miles of shoreline between 83rd and 63rd Streets (DEP monuments R-36 to R-47). The total volume of material required for the beach fill is now estimated to be 600,000 cubic yards. The exact source of the upland sand would be determined during the procurement process. Sand sources proposed by contractors would have to meet a set of generic sand specifications and pass a screening process for sand characteristics.

Except for the modifications mentioned above, none of the conditions in our June 19, 1998, BA has changed and our previous determination that the proposed action will not adversely affect any listed species under the jurisdiction of the National Marine Fisheries Service remains the same.

-2-

Your concurrence on this determination is requested. If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact Mr. Mike Dupes at 904-232-1689.

Sincerely,

James C. Duck
Chief, Planning Division

bcc:
CESAJ-DP-I

DIVISIONS OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Office of the Secretary
Office of International Relations
Division of Elections
Division of Corporations
Division of Cultural Affairs
Division of Historical Resources
Division of Library and Information Services
Division of Licensing
Division of Administrative Services



MEMBER OF THE FLORIDA CABINET

State Board of Education
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Administration Commission
Florida Land and Water Adjudicatory Commission
Siting Board
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Department of Revenue
Department of Law Enforcement
Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles
Department of Veterans' Affairs

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Katherine Harris

Secretary of State

DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES

April 21, 1999

Mr. Michael A. Moore, Lieutenant Colonel
Planning Division, Environmental Branch
Jacksonville District, Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 4970
Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019

RE: DHR Project File No. 988049
Cultural Resource Assessment Request
Dade County Beach Erosion Control Project - Evaluation of Argonite (or other Carbonate Sand) on Test Segment of Beach from NE 88th Street to South of NE 66th Street
Miami Beach, Dade County, Florida

Dear Lieutenant Moore:

In accordance with the procedures contained in 36 C.F.R., Part 800 ("Protection of Historic Properties"), we have reviewed the referenced project for possible impact to historic properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the *National Register of Historic Places*. The authority for this procedure is the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), as amended.

For the beach renourishment areas, a review of the Florida Master Site File indicates that no significant archaeological or historical sites are recorded for or likely to be present within the project area. Furthermore, because of the project location and/or nature it is unlikely that any such sites will be affected. Therefore, it is the opinion of this office that the proposed project will have no effect on historic properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the *National Register of Historic Places*.

For the fill material-borrow area, we note that the origin of the carbonate sand may be coming from a foreign source (Bahamas Bank, Turks, and Caicos Islands). Since this source material is located outside the United States, we recommend that you refer to Section 402 (16 U.S.C. 470a-2) of the *National Historic Preservation Act of 1966*, which deals with federal undertakings outside the United States and federal agency responsibilities to address historic properties with the source country.

We understand that if the sand borrow source is located within the State of Florida's jurisdiction, the Corps will be coordinating with our office. If you have any questions concerning our comments, please contact Robin Jackson, Historic Sites Specialist, at 850-487-2333 or 800-847-7278. Your interest in protecting Florida's historic properties is appreciated.

Sincerely,

for Laura H. Kammerer
George W. Percy, Director
Division of Historical Resources

and

State Historic Preservation Officer

GWP/Jrj

R.A. Gray Building • 500 South Bronough Street • Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250 • <http://www.flheritage.com>

<input type="checkbox"/> Director's Office (850) 488-1480 • FAX: 488-3355	<input type="checkbox"/> Archaeological Research (850) 487-2299 • FAX: 414-2207	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic Preservation (850) 487-2333 • FAX: 922-0496	<input type="checkbox"/> Historical Museums (850) 488-1484 • FAX: 921-2503
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic Pensacola Preservation Board (850) 595-5985 • FAX: 595-5989	<input type="checkbox"/> Palm Beach Regional Office (561) 279-1475 • FAX: 279-1476	<input type="checkbox"/> St. Augustine Regional Office (904) 825-5045 • FAX: 825-5044	<input type="checkbox"/> Tampa Regional Office (813) 272-3843 • FAX: 272-2340

DIVISIONS OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Office of the Secretary
Office of International Relations
Division of Elections
Division of Corporations
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Division of Historical Resources
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Division of Licensing
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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Katherine Harris

Secretary of State

DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES

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Administration Commission
Florida Land and Water Adjudicatory Commission
Siting Board
Division of Bond Finance
Department of Revenue
Department of Law Enforcement
Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles
Department of Veterans' Affairs

January 15, 1999

Mr. Michael A. Moore
Planning Division, Environmental Branch
Jacksonville District, Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 4970
Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019

RE: DHR Project File No. 988362
Cultural Resource Assessment Request
Notice of Intent (NOI) to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement
for the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project
Dade County, Florida

Dear Mr. Moore:

In accordance with the procedures contained in 36 C.F.R., Part 800 ("Protection of Historic Properties"), we have reviewed the referenced project for possible impact to historic properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the *National Register of Historic Places*. The authority for this procedure is the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), as amended.

For the beach renourishment areas, a review of the Florida Master Site File indicates that no significant archaeological or historical sites are recorded for or likely to be present within the project area. Furthermore, because of the project location and/or nature it is unlikely that any such sites will be affected. Therefore, it is the opinion of this office that the proposed project will have no effect on historic properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the *National Register of Historic Places*.

For the fill material-borrow area, we note that the origin of the carbonate sand will be coming from a foreign source (Bahamas Bank). Since this source material is located outside the United States, we recommend that you refer to Section 402 (16 U.S.C. 470a-2) of the *National Historic Preservation Act of 1966*, which deals with federal undertakings outside the United States and federal agency responsibilities to address historic properties with the source country.

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

R.A Gray Building • 500 South Bronough Street • Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250 • (850)488-1480

FAX: (850) 488-3353 • WWW Address <http://www.dos.state.fl.us>

☐ ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH
(850) 487-2299 • FAX: 414-2207

☒ HISTORIC PRESERVATION
(850) 487-2333 • FAX: 922-0496

☐ HISTORICAL MUSEUMS
(850) 488-1484 • FAX: 921-2503

Mr. Moore
January 15, 1999
Page 2

If you have any questions concerning our comments, please contact Scott Edwards, Historic Preservation Planner, at 850-487-2333 or 800-847-7278. Your interest in protecting Florida's historic properties is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Laura A. Kammerer

for

George W. Percy, Director
Division of Historical Resources
and
State Historic Preservation Officer

GWP/Ese

document by writing to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, ATTN: CENAB-PL-P (Ms. Maria de la Torre), P.O. Box 1715, Baltimore, MD 21203-1715, or by telephone at (410) 962-2911 or 1-800-295-1610. Written comments or inquiries may also be sent by fax to Ms. de la Torre at (410) 962-4698 or by electronic mail to cenab-pl-p@usace.army.mil. The combined Decision Document and SEIS is also available on the Baltimore District's Internet website as an Adobe Acrobat file at www.nab.usace.army.mil/pbriefs/scranton/seis299.

7. A Public Meeting for the Plot community is scheduled for Wednesday, March 10, 1999, at 7 p.m., at St. Joseph's Lithuanian Church (corner of Main Avenue and Theodore Street), Scranton, Pennsylvania. A Public Meeting for the Green Ridge community is scheduled for Thursday, March 11, 1999, at 7 p.m., also at St. Joseph's Lithuanian Church. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss the status of the reevaluation and related issues, and to address any comments, questions, and suggestions from the public.

Robert F. Gore,

Acting Chief, Planning Division.

[FR Doc. 99-3986 Filed 2-18-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-41-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Corps of Engineers, Department of the Army

Cancellation of the Notice of Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project, for a Test Beach Fill Using a Foreign Source of Carbonate Sand

AGENCY: Jacksonville District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Defense.

ACTION: Cancellation notice.

SUMMARY: The Jacksonville District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers hereby cancels its Notice of Intent to prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement as published in FR, Vol. 63, No. 162, page 44850, August 21, 1998 and Vol. 63, No. 207, page 57282, October 27, 1998.

The Notice is cancelled because Congress, in the Conference Report for FY 1999 appropriations, stated that none of the funds added by Congress (in FY 1999) for the Dade County, Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project shall be used for the acquisition of foreign source materials

for the project unless the Secretary of the Army provides written certification to the committees on Appropriations that domestic sources of material are not available.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions can be forwarded to Mr. Kenneth Dugger, Environmental Branch, Planning Division, Jacksonville District, Corps of Engineers, Post Office Box 4970, Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019, Phone: 904-232-1686.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: None.

Dated: February 8, 1999.

James C. Duck,

Chief, Planning Division.

[FR Doc. 99-4192 Filed 2-18-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-AJ-M

DELAWARE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

Notice of Determination Regarding the Assimilative Capacity of the Tidal Delaware River for Toxic Pollutants; Public Hearings

AGENCY: Delaware River Basin Commission.

ACTION: Notice of Commission determination and public hearings.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Delaware River Basin Commission will hold public hearings to receive comments on a determination that the assimilative capacity of the tidal Delaware River is being exceeded for certain toxic pollutants. This determination will authorize the Executive Director to establish wasteload allocations for specific point source discharges of these pollutants.

DATES: The public hearings are scheduled as follows:

May 3, 1999 beginning at 1:30 p.m. and continuing until 5:00 p.m., as long as there are people present wishing to testify.

May 5, 1999 beginning at 1:30 p.m. and continuing until 5:00 p.m. as long as there are people present wishing to testify; and resuming at 6:30 p.m. and continuing until 9:00 p.m., as long as there are people present wishing to testify.

May 11, 1999 beginning at 1:30 p.m. and continuing until 5:00 p.m., as long as there are people present wishing to testify.

ADDRESSES: The May 3, 1999 hearing will be held in the Second Floor Auditorium of the Carvel State Building, 820 North French Street, Wilmington, Delaware.

The May 5, 1999 hearing will be held in the Goddard Conference Room of the

Commission's offices at 25 State Police Drive, West Trenton, New Jersey.

The May 11, 1999 hearing will be held in the Jefferson Room of the Holiday Inn at 400 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Susan M. Weisman, Commission Secretary, Delaware River Basin Commission, P.O. Box 7360, West Trenton, New Jersey 08628. Telephone (609) 883-9500 ext. 203.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background and Rationale

On October 23, 1996 the Delaware River Basin Commission amended its Comprehensive Plan, Water Code and Water Quality Regulations concerning water quality criteria for toxic pollutants, and policies and procedures to establish wasteload allocations and effluent limitations for point source discharges to the tidal Delaware River.

Specifically, water quality criteria for selected toxic pollutants were incorporated in the Comprehensive Plan and Article 3 of the Water Code and Water Quality Regulations as stream quality objectives. Article 4 of the Water Quality Regulations was amended to include policies and procedures to be used to establish wasteload allocations for those discharges containing pollutants which exceed the stream quality objectives and impact the designated uses of the river following a Commission determination that the assimilative capacity of a zone of the Delaware River is exceeded. These amendments provided a mechanism for identifying toxic pollutants which impair aquatic life and human health, and developing uniform and equitable wasteload allocations for those NPDES discharges to the tidal Delaware River which contribute to their impairment. The permitting authorities of the Basin states will utilize allocations developed by the Commission to establish effluent limitations for NPDES permittees in their jurisdiction, as appropriate.

The subject of the hearings is a proposed determination by the Commission that the assimilative capacity of the tidal Delaware River (Trenton, NJ to the head of Delaware Bay) is being exceeded for 1,2-dichloroethane, tetrachloroethene, chronic toxicity and acute toxicity. These parameters were selected based upon their mass loading to the estuary, minimal interaction with estuary sediments, and the availability of calibrated and validated water quality models that could be used to develop the wasteload allocations. This determination will authorize the



STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

"Helping Floridians create safe, vibrant, sustainable communities"

BUDDY MacKAY
Governor

December 24, 1998

JAMES F. MURLEY
Secretary

Mr. Kenneth Dugger
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Department of Defense
Post Office Box 4970
Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019

RE: Department of the Army - Federal Register Notice -
Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact
Statement for the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and
Hurricane Protection Project, for a Test Beach Fill
Using a Foreign Source of Carbonate Sand; Correction -
Miami-Dade County, Florida
SAI: FL9810270690C

Dear Mr. Dugger:

The Florida State Clearinghouse, pursuant to Presidential Executive Order 12372, Gubernatorial Executive Order 95-359, the Coastal Zone Management Act, 16 U.S.C. §§ 1451-1464, as amended, and the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 4321, 4331-4335, 4341-4347, as amended, has coordinated a review of the above-referenced project.

The Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Bureau of Protected Species Management notes that although they have previously reviewed the proposed project (see attached comments dated June 3, 1997, and November 6, 1997), based on the available information, the DEP is unable to determine whether this project will be consistent with the DEP's authorities in the Coastal Zone Management Program. The DEP's primary concern is the need to ensure that the test plan includes an assessment of the effects of the alternative sand source on nesting success and nest site selection of female turtles, as well as the potential impacts to hatchling marine turtles. When information on the impacts of the alternative sand source is received, the DEP will be able to evaluate the consistency of the project. Please refer to the enclosed DEP comments.

2555 SHUMARD OAK BOULEVARD • TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-2100
Phone: (850) 488-8466/Suncom 278-8466 FAX: (850) 921-0781/Suncom 291-0781
Internet address: <http://www.state.fl.us/comaff/>

Mr. Kenneth Dugger
December 24, 1998
Page Two

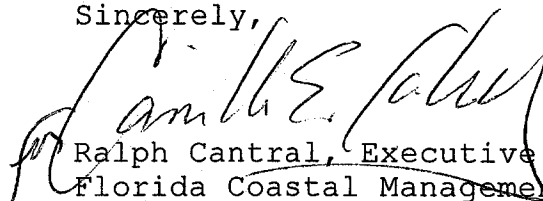
The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) notes that, under the operating agreement between the DEP and the Water Management Districts, the DEP will be taking the lead in the review of this project. Please refer to the enclosed SFWMD comments.

The Governor's Office of Planning and Budgeting (OPB) recommends that the draft EIS address the need to conduct a complete biological analysis prior to the test beach fill to identify and assess the risk to Florida beaches from exotic or pathogenic species. Please refer to the enclosed OPB comments.

Based on the information contained in the notice of intent to prepare a draft environmental impact statement and the enclosed comments provided by our reviewing agencies, at this stage of project development, the state is unable to determine whether the above-referenced project is consistent with the Florida Coastal Management Program (FCMP). Therefore, the project will be reevaluated when additional information becomes available. All subsequent environmental documents should be forwarded to the Florida State Clearinghouse for interagency review. Comments received from the South Florida Regional Planning Council are also enclosed for your review.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this project. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Ms. Cherie Trainor, Clearinghouse Coordinator, at (850) 922-5438.

Sincerely,



Ralph Cantral, Executive Director
Florida Coastal Management Program

RC/cc

Enclosures

cc: Robert Hall, Department of Environmental Protection
Jim Golden, South Florida Water Management District
Carliane Johnson, Office of Planning and Budgeting
Eric Silva, South Florida Regional Planning Council



Department of Environmental Protection

Lawton Chiles
Governor

Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000

Virginia B. Wetherell
Secretary

November

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State of Florida Clearinghouse

Ms. Cherie Trainor
Florida State Clearinghouse
Department of Community Affairs
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2100

Re: Department of the Army Notice of Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project, Miami, Dade County.

SAI: FL9810120673C

Dear Ms. Trainor:

This Department has reviewed the above-described project proposal and based on the information provided, we submit the following comments and recommendations regarding preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for this project.

Our Bureau of Protected Species Management reports that it has previously provided reviews of this project (see attached comments dated June 3, 1997 and November 6, 1997). However, based on the information provided thus far it is not yet possible to determine if this project is consistent with our authorities in the Coastal Zone Management Program. Our primary concern is that the test plan include assessment of the effects of the alternative sand source on nesting success (number of nests compared with the total number of emergences) and nest site selection by female turtles as well as potential impacts to hatchling marine turtles. When information on the effects of the alternative sand source is received, we will be able to make a consistency determination for this project.

Thank you for the opportunity of commenting on this proposal. For clarification of the requested information please contact Robbin Trindell, Ph.D., 850/922-4330. If you have any questions regarding this letter please give me a call at (850) 487-2231.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Hall
Office of Intergovernmental
Programs

Attachment

cc: Fritz Wettstein
Robbin Trindell

"Protect, Conserve and Manage Florida's Environment and Natural Resources"

Printed on recycled paper.

Attachment II

TO: Bob Brantly, P.E.
Bureau of Beaches & Coastal Systems

FROM: Robbin N. Trindell, Ph.D.
Bureau of Protected Species Management

DATE: November 6, 1997

SUBJECT: Dade County Alternate Sand Source Investigation

I have reviewed the referenced document. Any material from an upland sand source proposed for beach placement should be tested on a small scale to document its performance in the marine inter- and supratidal environmental. Blocks of replicate test plots and control plots, both treatment controls and areas of existing "beach" sand, should be monitored at different locations along the coastline. A complete analysis of the sediments, including grain size, angularity, skewness, kurtosis, ect., should be completed on the material prior to its placement on the beach, immediately after its placement on the beach, and at set intervals thereafter. *In situ* measurements, including compaction, shear resistance, bulk density, moisture, and organic content, should also be collected. A minimum of three years of sampling should be conducted at the experimental plots. This sampling interval can be shortened if it can be documented that the upland sediments have been lost from the site or completely reworked and no longer distinguishable from surrounding "beach" sediments. Marine turtle nesting information should also be collected from the test plots during the experimental interval.

We are willing to participate in the design of any experiments, and can request assistance from staff of the Florida Geological Survey if necessary. Thank you for the opportunity to review this proposal.

Cc: Paulette Bond, FGS
Bob Lutz, BBCS

Attachment I

June 3, 1997

Mr. Hanley K. Smith
Acting Chief, Planning Division
Department of the Army
Jacksonville District Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 4970
Jacksonville, FL 32231-0019

Dear Mr. Smith:

I have reviewed the test beach proposal contained in your letter of May 3, 1997, to David Arnold. The environmental testing program for marine turtles was fairly detailed; additional clarification of components of the experimental design are listed below.

Experimental analyses should be designed to determine if placement of foreign aragonite on marine turtle nesting beaches alters marine turtle nesting behavior and success. Marine turtle nesting patterns and success vary both temporally among years and spatially along the shoreline. To detect treatment effects, in this case placement of foreign aragonite, on the response variable, marine turtle nesting patterns and success, a test beach site and a control site must be identified. Background and baseline information must be collected on both sites.

The test beach and control sites should be as similar as possible with respect to background conditions, including slope, temperature, color, moisture, gas exchange, lighting, overland drainage, upland development, beach/dune profile, nearshore environment and biotic communities, and offshore bathymetry. Marine turtle nesting patterns, including nest density, nest to false crawl ratio, hatch success, and emergence success, should also not differ between the test and control beach prior to the placement of the foreign aragonite. Differences between the two sites should be assessed by comparing one or more years of baseline measurements from the test and control beach prior to the nourishment activity.

Standard experimental methodology requires that the test and control beach be treated identically with the exception of the treatment effect. Thus, the control beach should be nourished with native beach sand at the same interval and using the same methodology as the test beach. Otherwise, we will not be able to separate differences in marine turtle nesting due to renourishment in general from differences due to use of foreign aragonite as fill material, if any exist.

Postconstruction measurements of substrate suitability, including scarps, compaction, slope, stability, temperature, color, moisture and gas exchange, should be collected on both the test and control beaches after nourishment. Marine turtle nest site selection, including the number of false crawls, the type of false crawl, the number of nests, nest morphology, the false crawl to nest ratio, and nest success parameters, including incubation period, nest success, sex ratios, and emergence success, should be collected on both test and control beaches after nourishment. The number, duration, and location of scarps and associated false crawls, should also be measured.

Given the lower density of marine turtle nests in Dade County, there is potential that there will be too few nests on the test or control beach for statistical comparisons. A similar study has been proposed for Broward County. Addition of a second control and test plot in Broward County would increase the power of the proposed experiments to assess effects of a foreign aragonite source on marine turtle nesting. This additional set of experiments should be implemented simultaneously, if possible.

COUNTY: Miami-Dade

DATE: 11/03/1998

COMMENTS DUE-2 WKS: 11/18/1998

CLEARANCE DUE DATE: 12/11/1998

SAI#: FL98102706901

Message:

STATE AGENCIES

WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS

OPB POLICY UNITS

X Agriculture
Community Affairs
Environmental Protection
Game and Fresh Water Fish Comm
Marine Fisheries Commission
State
Transportation

South Florida WMD

Environmental Policy/C & ED

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State of Florida Clearinghouse

The attached document requires a Coastal Zone Management Act/Florida Coastal Management Program consistency evaluation and is categorized as one of the following:

- Federal Assistance to State or Local Government (15 CFR 930, Subpart F). Agencies are required to evaluate the consistency of the activity.
- X Direct Federal Activity (15 CFR 930, Subpart C). Federal Agencies are required to furnish a consistency determination for the State's concurrence or objection.
- Outer Continental Shelf Exploration, Development or Production Activities (15 CFR 930, Subpart E). Operators are required to provide a consistency certification for state concurrence/objection.
- Federal Licensing or Permitting Activity (15 CFR 930, Subpart D). Such projects will only be evaluated for consistency when there is not an analogous state license or permit.

Project Description:

Department of Defense - Department of the Army
- Federal Register Notice - Intent to Prepare a
Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the
Dade County Beach Erosion Control and
Hurricane Protection Project, for a Test Beach Fill
Using a Foreign Source of Carbonate Sand;
Correction - Miami-Dade County, Florida.

To: Florida State Clearinghouse
Department of Community Affairs
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100
(850) 922-5438 (SC 292-5438)
(850) 414-0479 (FAX)

EO. 12372/NEPA

Federal Consistency

- ☒ No Comment
☐ Comments Attached
☐ Not Applicable

- ☒ No Comment/Consistent
☐ Consistent/Comments Attached
☐ Inconsistent/Comments Attached
☐ Not Applicable

From:

Division/Bureau: FORESTRY / FRP + SS

Reviewer: Bob Mc Donald

Date: 11-3-98

COUNTY: Miami-Dade

DATE: 11/03/1998

COMMENTS DUE-2 WKS: 11/18/1998

CLEARANCE DUE DATE: 12/11/1998

SAI#: FL9810270690

Message:

STATE AGENCIES

Agriculture
Community Affairs
Environmental Protection
X Game and Fresh Water Fish Comm
Marine Fisheries Commission
State
Transportation

WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS

South Florida WMD

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State of Florida Clearinghouse

OPB POLICY UNITS

Environmental Policy/C & ED

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OFFICE OF
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

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☐ Not Applicable

From: GFWFC

Division/Bureau: Environmental Services

Reviewer: Douglas B. Bailey

Date: 11-5-98

COUNTY: Miami-Dade

Message:

DATE: 11/03/1998
COMMENTS DUE-2 WKS: 11/18/1998
CLEARANCE DUE DATE: 12/11/1998
SAI#: FL98102706901

STATE AGENCIES

WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS

OPB POLICY UNITS

Agriculture
Community Affairs
Environmental Protection
Game and Fresh Water Fish Comm
X Marine Fisheries Commission
State
Transportation

South Florida WMD

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State of Florida Clearinghouse

Environmental Policy/C & ED

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MARINE FISHERIES
COMMISSION

The attached document requires a Coastal Zone Management Act/Florida Coastal Management Program consistency evaluation and is categorized as one of the following:

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EO. 12372/NEPA

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☐ Comments Attached
☐ Not Applicable

- ☐ No Comment/Consistent
☐ Consistent/Comments Attached
☐ Inconsistent/Comments Attached
☒ Not Applicable

MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION
2540 EXECUTIVE CENTER CIRCLE WEST
SUITE 106
TALLAHASSEE, FL 32301

From:

Division/Bureau:

Reviewer:

Date:

[Signature]
4/9/98

COUNTY: Miami-Dade

Message:

DATE: 12/03/1998
COMMENTS DUE-2 WKS: 11/18/1998
CLEARANCE DUE DATE: 12/11/1998
SAI#: FL9810270690C

STATE AGENCIES

WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS

OPB POLICY UNITS

Agriculture
Community Affairs
Environmental Protection
Game and Fresh Water Fish Comm
Marine Fisheries Commission
State
X Transportation

South Florida WMD

Environmental Policy/C & ED

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☒ No Comment/Consistent
☐ Consistent/Comments Attached
☐ Inconsistent/Comments Attached
☐ Not Applicable

From:

Division/Bureau: Planning

Reviewer: Jo Laurie Penrose

Date: 12-03-98

COUNTY: Miami-Dade

DATE: 11/03/1998

COMPLETION DATE-2 WKS: 11/10/1998

CLEARANCE DUE DATE: 12/11/1998

SAI#: FL9810270690C

Message:

STATE AGENCIES

Agriculture
Community Affairs
Environmental Protection
Game and Fresh Water Fish Comm
Marine Fisheries Commission
State
Transportation

WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS

X South Florida WMD

OPN POLICY UNITS

Environmental Policy/C & ED

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☐ Consistent/Comments Attached
☐ Inconsistent/Comments Attached
☒ Not Applicable

UNDER THE OPERATING AGREEMENT BETWEEN DEP AND THE WMDs, DEP WILL BE TAKING THE LEAD IN THE REVIEW OF THIS PROJECT.

From:

Division/Bureau: REGULATION DEPT.

Reviewer: JFM GOLDEN

Date: 11/18/98

South
Florida
Regional
Planning
Council



December 9, 1998

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DEC 11 1998

VIA FACSIMILE & MAIL

State of Florida Clearinghouse

Ms. Cherie Trainor
Florida State Clearinghouse
Department of Community Affairs
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

RE: SFRPC #98-1105, SAI #FL98101270690C - Response to a request for comments on the Notice of Intent to prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, City of Miami Beach, Miami-Dade County.

Dear Ms. Trainor:

We have reviewed the above-referenced project and have the following comments:

- The project methodology and design, as proposed, is generally consistent with the goals and policies of the *Strategic Regional Policy Plan for South Florida* (SRPP). Council staff recognizes that offshore borrow sources along Miami-Dade County are nearly depleted and that future erosion control projects will require alternative sand sources.
- Beaches and dune systems are identified as natural resources of regional significance in the SRPP. Staff supports the use of buffer zones to protect these important resources. Sand movement and downdrift erosion should be monitored on a region wide basis to ensure the livelihood of wildlife habitats and the stability of the project area. All actions should be consistent with the goals and policies of the City of Miami Beach comprehensive plan.
- Staff recommends that, if the proposed actions are implemented, 1) impacts to the natural systems be minimized to the greatest extent feasible and 2) the permit grantor determine the extent of sensitive marine life and vegetative communities in the vicinity of each project and require protection and or mitigation of disturbed habitat. These guidelines will assist in reducing the cumulative impacts to native plants and animals, wetlands and deep water habitat and fisheries that the goals and policies of the *Strategic Regional Policy Plan for South Florida* seek to protect.
- The goals and policies of the *Strategic Regional Policy Plan for South Florida*, in particular those indicated below, should be observed when making decisions regarding this project.

Strategic Regional Goal

- 3.1 Eliminate the inappropriate uses of land by improving the land use designations and utilize land acquisition where necessary so that the quality and connectedness of Natural Resources of Regional Significance and suitable high quality natural areas is improved.

Regional Policies

- 3.1.9 Degradation or destruction of Natural Resources of Regional Significance, including listed species and their habitats will occur as a result of a proposed project only if :
- a) the activity is necessary to prevent or eliminate a public hazard, and
 - b) the activity is in the public interest and no other alternative exists, and
 - c) the activity does not destroy significant natural habitat, or identified natural resource values, and
 - d) the activity does not destroy habitat for threatened or endangered species, and
 - e) the activity does not negatively impact listed species that have been documented to use or rely upon the site.
- 3.1.10 Proposed projects shall include buffer zones between development and existing Natural Resources of Regional Significance and other suitable natural resources. The buffer zones shall provide natural habitat values and functions that compliment Natural Resources of Regional Significance values so that the natural system values of the site are not negatively impacted by adjacent uses. The buffer zones shall be a minimum of 25 feet in width. Alternative widths may be proposed if it is demonstrated that the alternative furthers the viability of the Natural Resource of Regional Significance, effectively separating the development impacts from the natural resource or contributing to reduced fragmentation of identified Natural Resources of Regional Significance.
- 3.1.11 Implement monitoring and maintenance of Natural Resources of Regional Significance and other suitable natural resources so that an Overall Positive Gain in quality and quantity of the Natural Resources of Regional Significance is achieved. The monitoring of the Natural Resources of Regional Significance shall be included on all projects that have not been demonstrated to not adversely impact the resource or associated listed species.
- 3.1.19 Uses of the land shall be consistent with the sustained ecological functioning of the Natural Resources of Regional Significance and suitable adjacent natural buffer areas and will be based upon the radius required to provide protection to the natural system and associated inhabitants. The radius will vary in size depending upon the resource or species that is to be protected.

Strategic Regional Goal

- 3.8 Enhance and preserve natural system values of South Florida's shorelines, estuaries, benthic communities, fisheries, and associated habitats, including but not limited to, Florida Bay, Biscayne Bay and the coral reef tract.

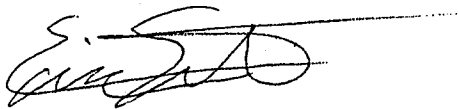
Regional Policies

- 3.8.1 Enhance and preserve natural shoreline characteristics through requirements resulting from the review of proposed projects and in the implementation of ICE, including but not limited to, mangroves, beaches and dunes through prohibition of structural shoreline stabilization methods except to protect existing navigation channels, maintain reasonable riparian access, or allow an activity in the public interest as determined by applicable state and federal permitting criteria.

- 3.8.2 Enhance and preserve benthic communities, including but not limited to seagrass and shellfish beds, and coral habitats, by allowing only that dredge and fill activity, artificial shading of habitat areas, or destruction from boats that is the least amount practicable, and by encouraging permanent mooring facilities. Dredge and fill activities may occur on submerged lands in the Florida Keys only as permitted by the Monroe County Land Development Regulations. It must be demonstrated pursuant to the review of the proposed project features that the activities included in the proposed project do not cause permanent, adverse natural system impacts.
- 3.8.3 As a result of proposed project reviews, include conditions that result in a project that enhances and preserves marine and estuarine water quality by:
- a) improving the timing and quality of freshwater inflows;
 - b) reducing turbidity, nutrient loading and bacterial loading from wastewater facilities and vessels;
 - c) reducing the number of improperly maintained stormwater systems; and
 - d) requiring port facilities and marinas to implement hazardous materials spill plans.
- 3.8.4 Enhance and preserve commercial and sports fisheries through monitoring, research, best management practices for fish harvesting and protection of nursery habitat and include the resulting information in educational programs throughout the region. Identified nursery habitat shall be protected through the inclusion of suitable habitat protective features including, but not limited to:
- a) avoidance of project impacts within habitat area;
 - b) replacement of habitat area impacted by proposed project; or
 - c) improvement of remaining habitat area within remainder of proposed project area.
- 3.8.5 Enhance and preserve habitat for endangered and threatened marine species by the preservation of identified endangered species habitat and populations. For threatened species or species of critical concern, on-site preservation will be required unless it is demonstrated that off-site mitigation will not adversely impact the viability or number of individuals of the species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. We would appreciate being kept informed on the progress of this project. Please do not hesitate to call if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely,



Eric Silva
Senior Planner

ES/cp

cc: Dean J. Grandin Jr., City of Miami Beach
Jean Evoy, DERM



STATE OF FLORIDA

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

"Helping Floridians create safe, vibrant, sustainable communities"

LAWTON CHILES
Governor

JAMES F. MURLEY
Secretary

December 10, 1998

Mr. Kenneth Dugger
Department of Defense
Department of the Army
Post Office Box 4970
Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019

RE: Department of the Army - Federal Register Notice -
Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact
Statement for the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and
Hurricane Protection Project, for a Test Beach Fill
Using a Foreign Source of Carbonate Sand; Correction -
Miami-Dade County, Florida
SAI: FL9810270690C

Dear Mr. Dugger:

The Florida State Clearinghouse has been advised that our reviewing agencies require additional time to complete the review of the above-referenced project. In order to receive comments from all agencies, an additional fifteen days is requested for completion of the state's consistency review in accordance with 15 CFR 930.41(b). We will make every effort to conclude the review and forward the consistency determination to you on or before December 26, 1998.

Thank you for your understanding. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Ms. Cherie Trainor, Clearinghouse Coordinator, at (850) 922-5438.

Sincerely,

Ralph Cantral, Executive Director
Florida Coastal Management Program

RC/cc

2555 SHUMARD OAK BOULEVARD • TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-2100
Phone: 850.488.8466/Suncom 278.8466 FAX: 850.921.0781/Suncom 291.0781
Internet address: www.state.fl.us/comaff/dca

FLORIDA KEYS
Area of Critical State Concern Field Office
2796 Overseas Highway, Suite 212
Marathon, Florida 33050-2227

GREEN SWAMP
Area of Critical State Concern Field Office
205 East Main Street • Suite 104
Bartow, Florida 33830



30 November 98
Operations Center

ReefKeeper[®] International

PHONE (305)358-4600 FAX (305)358-3030

E-MAIL
reefkeeper@reefkeeper.org

WEB SITE
<http://www.reefkeeper.org>

OPERATIONS CENTER
Suite 162
2809 Bird Avenue
Miami, FL 33133

CARIBBEAN REGION
P.O. Box 1253
Boqueron, PR 00622

LATIN AMERICAN REGION
P.O. Box 185
Cozumel, QROO
MEXICO 77600

Mr. Kenneth Dugger
Environmental Branch
Planning Division
P.O. Box 4970
Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019

Dear Mr. Dugger,

ReefKeeper International would like to receive a copy of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Report when it becomes available.

ReefKeeper International is a non-profit, grass-roots membership organization dedicated to the conservation of coral reefs throughout the world.

Thank you for your time and effort in this matter. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Sean J. Heiss
Operations Associate
ReefKeeper International

NOV 10 1998

Planning Division
Environmental Branch

Mr. George W. Percy
State Historic Preservation Officer
Division of Historical Resources
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee Florida 32399-0250

Dear Mr. Percy:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Jacksonville District, has constructed and renourished the Dade County beach erosion control project. A project map is enclosed.

We intend to evaluate the physical and environmental performance of aragonite (or other carbonate sand) on a test segment on the beach located from NE 88th Street to south of NE 66th Street in Miami Beach. This beach segment is an erosional area in which the Corps has placed sand several times since the 1968 project authorization. Historic properties included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places are not likely to be located on this beach segment.

Offshore borrow sources of beach quality sediment along the Dade County shoreline have almost completely been depleted and alternative sources of material will be required to provide continued renourishment of the Dade County project. Foreign sources of aragonite are being considered, such as the Bahamas Bank and the Turks and Caicos Islands.

As of this date, a borrow source has not been selected for this project. If a borrow source is identified in the State of Florida, or in adjacent U.S. waters, the Corps will coordinate with your office according to the procedures established in 36 CFR Part 800.

We are consulting with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation to clarify appropriate procedures for compliance with the National Historic Preservation for utilization of a foreign sand source. Results of this consultation will be provided to your office separately.

It is the Corps' determination that placement of sand on this beach segment will not affect historic properties included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. We request your written concurrence with the no effect determination for the beach placement only. This determination is coordinated with your office according to the guidelines established in 36 CFR Part 800 and in partial compliance with Section 106 of the National; Historic Preservation Act.

If there are any questions regarding this matter, please contact Ms. Janice Adams at 904-232-2016.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Moore
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army
Acting Chief, Planning Division

Enclosures

bcc: CESAJ-DP-I (Stevens)
CESAJ-PD-ER (Dupes)
CESAJ-OC (Pax)

individuals wishing to attend should also call the below listed telephone number to obtain appropriate accommodations.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Kenneth Oprisko, Chief, Labor Relations Branch, Field Advisory Services Division, Defense Civilian Personnel Management Service, 1400 Key Blvd., Suite B-200, Arlington, VA 22209-5144, (703) 696-6301, ext. 704.

Dated: October 21, 1998.

L.M. Bynum,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 98-28636 Filed 10-26-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5000-04-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Notice of Availability of the Draft Legislative Environmental Impact Statement for the McGregor Range Military Land Withdrawal Renewal at Fort Bliss, Texas and New Mexico

AGENCY: Department of the Army, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: This announces the availability of the Draft Legislative Environmental Impact Statement (DLEIS) which assesses the potential environmental impact of the proposed renewal of the McGregor Range military land withdrawal.

The alternatives considered in the DLEIS are (1) the current boundaries of McGregor Range would remain the same; (2) the Tularosa Basin and Otero Mesa portions of McGregor Range would be withdrawn for continued military use; (3) the Tularosa Basin portion of McGregor Range would be withdrawn for continued military use; (4) the Tularosa Basin portion of McGregor Range south of New Mexico Highway 506 would be withdrawn for continued military use; (5) the no-action alternative was also considered in the DLEIS; (6) Congress could designate the Otero Mesa and Sacramento Mountain foothills as a National Conservation Area and Culp Canyon as a wilderness area on lands returned to the public domain under Alternatives 3, 4, and 5.

DATES: Comments should be received no later than February 5, 1999, to ensure due consideration.

ADDRESSES: To obtain copies of the DLEIS, contact Ms. Irene Reed, Office of the Program Manager, McGregor Renewal, ATTN: ATZC-CSA, Fort Bliss, TX 79916.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Dr. Andrew Vliet, Program Manager, ATTN: ATZC-CSA, Ft. Bliss, TX 79916. Dr. Vliet may be contacted at (915) 568-6708 or toll-free at (888) 248-8329. For copies of the DLEIS, contact Ms. Irene Reed at (915) 568-6708 or toll free at (888) 248-8329.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The analysis discusses potential impacts of varying degree under each alternative in the areas of land use, biological resources (including federally listed threatened and endangered species), cultural resources, geology, and soils, transportation, utilities, socioeconomic, hazardous materials and items of special concern, and regional cumulative effects on water resources. However, these impacts are not expected to differ significantly from the current conditions for each of these resources as they exist now.

Public meetings for the purpose of receiving comments on the DLEIS will be held in Alamogordo and Las Cruces, New Mexico and in El Paso, Texas. Additional details will follow in the media and through mailings to persons and organization on the McGregor Range Land Withdrawal Renewal mailing list. Public comments received on the DLEIS will be considered and addressed in the Final LEIS and considered by the Army in its recommendation to Congress.

Dated: October 20, 1998.

Raymond J. Fatz,

Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Environment, Safety and Occupational Health), OASA (I, L&E).

[FR Doc. 98-28720 Filed 10-26-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-08-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Availability of Non-Exclusive, Exclusive, or Partially Exclusive Licensing of U.S. Patent Application 09/047,389 Concerning "Flow-through Cell Culture Chamber"

AGENCY: U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command, DoD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with 37 CFR 404.7, announcement is made of the availability of U.S. Patent Application SN 09/047,389 entitled "Flow-through Cell Culture Chamber." This patent has been assigned to the United States Government as represented by the Secretary of the Army.

ADDRESSES: Commander, U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command, Command Judge Advocate

MCMR-JA, Fort Detrick, MD 21702-5012.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Charles Harris, Patent Attorney, 301-619-7807, Fax 301-619-5034.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Invention provides a simple and efficient flow-through cell culture chamber that can be easily assembled and disassembled without use of special tools, is constructed and arranged such that breakage of cover slips or other parts caused by uneven or over tightening is substantially avoided and is easily cleaned and sterilized. It can be used, over long periods of time, to study the effects of any type of agent, that can be added to the perfusate, on an unlimited variety of living cells using either visible microscopy or the rapidly expanding field of fluorescent imaging. The chamber can be adapted to any microscope stage while using a wide variety of objectives to allow observations ranging from large populations of cells to single-cell studies using oil immersion lenses.

Gregory D. Showalter,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-28672 Filed 10-26-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-08-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project, for a Test Beach Fill Using a Foreign Source of Carbonate Sand; Correction

AGENCY: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Defense.

ACTION: Correction.

SUMMARY: In previous *Federal Register* notice (Vol. 63, No. 162, pages 44850-44851) Friday, August 1, 1998, make the following corrections:

On page 44850 in column 2, line 33, increase the volume and length of the test fill to approximately 600,000 cubic yards from monuments DNR-36 to DNR-47 (approximately from 63rd Street to 83rd Street) for a total length of approximately 8600 feet (project needs at time of contact award will dictate exact quantity, length, and location).

On page 44851 in column 1, line 14 entitled "DEIS Preparation", the estimated date of availability of the DEIS is now November 19, 1998.

We continue to invite the participation of all interested parties in the scoping process by identifying any additional concerns on issues, studies needed, alternatives, procedures or other related matters.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kenneth Dugger, 904-232-1686, Environmental Branch, Planning Division, P.O. Box 4970, Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: None.

Gregory D. Showalter,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-28673 Filed 10-26-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-AJ-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for West Hayden Island Development, Multnomah County, Oregon

AGENCY: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of Intent.

SUMMARY: The Port of Portland is proposing to construct marine cargo facilities on West Hayden Island, including an access bridge across North Portland Harbor. West Hayden Island is an 846-acre site on the Columbia River downstream of Interstate 5 in Multnomah County, Oregon. Filling of 12.7 acres of wetlands on the site will require a Department of the Army (DA) permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Construction of the ship and barge berth and any associated dredging will require a DA permit under Section 10 of the River and Harbor Act of 1899. The proposed project will also require a bridge permit from the U.S. Coast Guard under Section 9 of the River and Harbor Act of 1899. Construction of the bridge may involve Federal funds through the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The Coast Guard and FHWA will serve as cooperating agencies in preparing the Draft EIS. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Portland District, will be the lead agency.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions about the proposed action and the Draft EIS can be answered by: David Kurkoski, Regulatory Branch, Portland District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Portland, Oregon 97208-2946, telephone (503) 808-4377.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. Proposed Action

The Port of Portland is proposing to construct marine cargo facilities on West Hayden Island, located on the Columbia River between river mile 102.7 and 105.6 in Multnomah County, Oregon. The site is bounded on the east by the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad (BNSF) tracks, on the north and west by the Columbia River, and on the south by North Portland Harbor. The purpose of this project is to provide suitable waterfront marine cargo facilities within the service area of the Port of Portland to meet future market demands for international export and import. The Port proposes to develop this project in three phases over a 30-year period.

The first phase of development, which would occur within three to five years of permit approvals, would include: a grain or bulk mineral terminal, including a quadruple rail loop; a 17-acre storage and handling area inside the loop; an offshore berth and access channel for ships and barges; rail access from the BNSF main line consisting of two tracks, providing both access and train storage capacity; an interim highway access road from East Hayden Island, providing vehicle access for employees, grain inspectors, and occasional maintenance and supply vehicles; a dock on each bank of North Portland Harbor to allow transport of construction materials and equipment to the project site; recreation improvements; a new bridge across North Portland Harbor to provide access between North Marine Drive and West Hayden Island; and stockpiling of dredged materials for use in future development phases.

Phase 2 may include development of 220 acres for a container terminal, including necessary berths and intermodal container transfer facilities. Other improvements would include utility systems, navigation channel access and turning basin, domestic intermodal yard and remaining open space improvements not implemented in Phase 1.

Phase 3 would consist of either a second grain or bulk terminal or additional container facility. If warranted a secondary rail bridge may be constructed to connect West Hayden Island with the Rivergate Industrial area to the south.

When all phases are completed, the project would include 474 acres of development, 373 acres of undeveloped land which may contain recreational improvements (such as trails, park, boat dock, viewpoints, observation and

interpretation area, and wildlife preserve), and on-site mitigation for wetland and shallow-water habitats adversely affected by the project.

This phasing sequence would be affected by the dynamics of the marketplace, but it is considered the most likely outcome at this time. Other phasing scenarios are possible. At this time, permits and approvals are being sought only for Phase 1. Phases 2 and 3 are included in the project description to give a full picture of the long-term development program.

2. Alternatives

The alternatives to be considered in this EIS are:

- a. the proposed action.
- b. other sites, including:
 - (1) development of other Port-owned sites.
 - (2) re-development of other Port sites.
 - (3) acquisition of other property.
- c. cooperative work with other ports.
- d. no action.

3. Scoping and Public Involvement

The scoping process will commence in October, 1998 with the issuance of a scoping notice. Federal, state and local agencies, Indian tribes, and interested organizations and individuals will be asked to comment on the significant issues relating to the potential effects of the alternatives. There are no plans to hold a formal scoping meeting.

Potentially significant issues to be addressed in detail include the effects of the project on wetlands and fisheries, including federally listed threatened and endangered salmonid fish species, and shallow water habitat.

The Draft EIS will be prepared concurrently with other environmental compliance requirements, including the Endangered Species Act and the National Historic Preservation Act. The Corps and the cooperating agencies intend to integrate the consultation procedures under these other statutes with the EIS. The Corps and the applicant have already begun consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) under the Endangered Species Act.

This proposed project also requires a Removal-Fill Permit from Oregon Division of State Lands as well as a Section 401 Water Quality Certification from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality.



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P. O. BOX 4970
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32232-0019
October 7, 1998



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF


Planning Division
Environmental Branch

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This Office intends to prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project. The DEIS will address a proposed test beach fill on a portion of Miami Beach using aragonite as the source of sand.

I have enclosed a copy of the Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare the subject DEIS which was published in the Federal Register on August 21, 1998. Since publication of the NOI, the proposed project has been slightly modified. The volume of fill for has been increased to approximately 600,000 cubic yards and the limits of the test beach have been changed to between DNR monuments DNR-36 and DNR-47 (approximately from 83rd Street to 63rd Street). A correction to the August 21st NOI will be published in the Federal Register within the next two weeks.

Sincerely,


MICHAEL A. MOORE
LTC, Corps of Engineers
Acting Chief, Planning Division

Enclosure

Epidemiological Board, Skyline Six, 5109 Leesburg Pike, Room 682, Falls Church, Virginia 22041-3258, (703) 681-8012/4.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: None.

Gregory D. Showalter,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-22512 Filed 8-20-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-08-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project, for a Test Beach Fill Using a Foreign Source of Carbonate Sand

AGENCY: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Defense.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The Jacksonville District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers intends to prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project, for a Test Beach Fill Using a Foreign Source of Carbonate Sand. The study is a cooperative effort between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Dade County Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM), the non-Federal sponsor for the project.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kenneth Dugger, 904-232-1686, Environmental Branch, Planning Division, P.O. Box 4970, Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection (BEC & HP) Project for Dade County, Florida was authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1968. The Supplemental Appropriations Act of 1985 and the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (Pub. L. 99-662) provided authority for extending the northern limit of the authorized project to include the construction of a protective beach along the 2.5 mile reach of shoreline north of Haulover Beach Party (Sunny Isles) and for periodic nourishment of the new beach.

Offshore borrow sources of beach quality sediment along the Dade County shoreline have been almost completely depleted, and alternative sources of material will be required in the near future to provide continued renourishment of the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane

Protection Project. Although carbonate sediment from offshore borrow sites has traditionally been used for project renourishment, the use of oolitic aragonite or other carbonate sand from non-domestic sources may provide an effective alternative for future renourishment requirements.

Virtually unlimited supplies of beach-quality material are available in the Bahamas Bank, located 65 miles east of the project site, in the Turks and Caicos Islands located approximately 500 miles to the southeast, and possibly other locations. The proposed test fill will be constructed using aragonite from one of these sources. The purpose of the test fill, in addition to providing nourishment to an eroded portion of the Federal project along northern Miami Beach, is to evaluate the physical and environmental performance of aragonite on the beach erosion control project.

The proposed test fill site would be located along northern Miami Beach, and would extend along approximately one mile of shoreline which has been an erosional area since the project was constructed. The proposed site is located far from adjacent inlets, and no significant structures exist in this vicinity to disrupt the "natural" coastal processes. The total volume of the test fill is expected to be approximately 500,000 cubic yards. The currently proposed location for the test fill is between 65th and 80th Streets in Miami Beach (DNR monuments DNR-39 to DNR-44). The exact source of aragonite (or other non-domestic carbonate sand) for the test beach would be determined during the procurement process. Sand sources proposed by contractors would have to meet a set of generic and specifications and pass a screening process for sand characteristics and possible introduction of undesirable benthic organisms or other environmental impacts.

The different properties of the material being placed in the test fill will allow the sediment to be used as a natural tracer material, and data on longshore and cross-shore transport can be gained by studying the movement of this material. In order to evaluate the performance of the test fill, a monitoring program will be established. This monitoring program would consist of four areas of field data acquisition: physical surveys, sediment sampling and analysis, aerial photography, and wave data collection. The field data would be collected over a minimum 5-year period following project construction. The wave gage would be installed and activated prior to construction. Physical surveys, sediment samples, and aerial

photography would be taken immediately before and after project construction, and quarterly for the first year, semi-annually for the second year, and annually thereafter for the remainder of the 5-year monitoring period. Physical surveys, sediment samples, and aerial photography would therefore be taken a total of 11 times during the monitoring program, while the directional wave gage would be operated continuously during the entire 5-year monitoring period.

In addition, environmental monitoring of the test fill would be performed. The environmental studies would focus mainly on the impacts of the non-native material on sea turtle nesting and benthic infaunal communities.

Alternatives: At this time, the only known alternative to performing the test beach fill is not performing the test or the no-action alternative.

Issues: The EIS will consider impacts on coral reefs and other hardbottom communities, endangered and threatened species, shore protection, water quality, aesthetics and recreation, fish and wildlife resources, cultural resources, energy conservation, socioeconomic resources, and other impacts identified through scoping, public involvement, and interagency coordination.

Scoping: A copy of this notice will be sent to interested parties to initiate scoping. All parties are invited to participate in the scoping process by identifying any additional concerns on issues, studies needed, alternatives, procedures, and other matters related to the scoping process. At this time, there are no plans for a public scoping meeting.

Public Involvement: We invite the participation of affected Federal, state and local agencies, affected Indian tribes, and other interested private organizations and parties.

Coordination: The proposed action is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the National Marine Fisheries Service under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, with the FWS under the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, and with the State Historic Preservation Officer. In addition, we have coordinated with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, the dredging industry, certain foreign government representatives, academic experts, and other interests on this matter.

Other Environmental Review and Consultation: The proposed action would involve evaluation for compliance with guidelines pursuant to Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act;

application (to the State of Florida) for Water Quality Certification pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act; certification of state lands, easements, and rights of way; and determination of Coastal Zone Management Act consistency.

Agency Role: As the non-Federal sponsor and leading local expert; DERM will provide extensive information and assistance on the resources to be impacted, mitigation measures, and alternatives.

DEIS Preparation: It is estimated that the DEIS will be available to the public on or about October 9, 1998. We plan to post the DEIS on the environmental documents page of the Jacksonville District's web site. (<http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/pd/env-doc.htm>.)

Dated: August 7, 1998.

George M. Strain,
Acting Chief, Planning Division.
[FR Doc. 98-22470 Filed 8-20-98; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3710-AJ-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Navy

Notice of Availability of Invention for Licensing; Government-Owned Invention

AGENCY: Department of the Navy, DOD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The following invention is assigned to the United States Government as represented by the Secretary of the Navy and is available for licensing by the Department of the Navy: U.S. Patent Application Ser. No. 08/940,043 entitled "Fiber-Reinforced Phthalonitrile Composite Cured With Low-Reactivity Aromatic Amine Curing Agent," Navy Case No. 78246.

ADDRESSES: Requests for copies of this patent application should be directed to the Office of Naval Research, ONR 00CC, Ballston Tower One, 800 North Quincy Street, Arlington, Virginia 22217-5660, and must include the Navy Case number.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. R.J. Erickson, Staff Patent Attorney, Office of Naval Research, ONR 00CC, Ballston Tower One, 800 North Quincy Street, Arlington, Virginia 22217-5660, telephone (703) 696-4001.

(Authority: 35 U.S.C. 207, 37 CFR Part 404.)

Dated: August 12, 1998.

Michael I. Quinn,
*Commander, Judge Advocate General's Corps,
U.S. Navy, Federal Register Liaison Officer.*
[FR Doc. 98-22473 Filed 8-20-98; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3810-FF-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Pit Disassembly and Conversion Demonstration Environmental Assessment and Research and Development Activities

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Finding of no significant impact.

SUMMARY: An environmental assessment (EA) has been prepared to assess potential environmental impacts associated with a U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) proposed action to test an integrated pit disassembly and conversion process on a relatively small sample of pits and plutonium metal at the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) in New Mexico. The proposed action would involve performing work in a series of interconnected gloveboxes using remote handling, automation, and computerized control systems to minimize operator exposure where possible, increase safety, and minimize the amount of waste generated by the process. Based on the analysis in the EA and considering comments received, DOE has determined that the proposed action is not a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment within the meaning of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Therefore, the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required. The EA also discusses other on-going research and development activities, which have already been reviewed pursuant to NEPA, and which concern pit disassembly and conversion, potential mixed oxide (MOX) fuel fabrication, and immobilization of surplus plutonium.

ADDRESSES AND FURTHER INFORMATION: Single copies of the EA and further information concerning the proposed action are available from: Mr. G. Bert Stevenson, NEPA Compliance Officer, Office of Fissile Materials Disposition (MD-4), U.S. Department of Energy, PO Box 23786, Washington, DC 20026-3786, (202) 586-5368.

For further information regarding the DOE NEPA Process, contact: Ms. Carol Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Assistance, Office of Environment, Safety and Health, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW,

Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586-4600 or (800) 472-2756.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose and Need

DOE needs to develop the capability to disassemble surplus plutonium pits which are sealed in metallic shells. (A pit is a nuclear weapons component.) In order to develop this capability in a timely manner, safety and operational design information must be obtained from the actual disassembly of up to 250 representative pits and the conversion of the recovered plutonium to plutonium metal ingots and plutonium dioxide. The resulting experience would be used to supplement information developed to support the design of a full-scale disassembly and conversion facility should DOE decide to construct such a facility in the *Surplus Plutonium Disposition Environmental Impact Statement* (SPD EIS) Record of Decision (ROD).

Background

DOE is implementing a long-term program to provide safe and secure storage of weapons-usable fissile materials, and to allow for the timely disposition of weapons-usable plutonium declared surplus to national security needs. The program's goal is to ensure that there is a high standard of security and accounting of these materials while in storage, and that the surplus plutonium is never used again in nuclear weapons.

In January 1997, DOE issued the ROD for the *Storage and Disposition of Weapons-Usable Fissile Materials Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (Storage and Disposition Final PEIS)*. In the PEIS ROD, DOE announced a decision to pursue a strategy to dispose of surplus United States plutonium that allows for two separate approaches: (1) Immobilization of some (and potentially all) of the surplus plutonium; and (2) using some of the surplus plutonium as MOX fuel in existing commercial reactors. In that decision, DOE explained that the timing and extent to which either or both of the disposition approaches are ultimately deployed would depend in part on the follow-on SPD EIS, as well as technology development and research.

Proposed Action

In order to meet the purpose and need for this action, DOE proposes that an integrated Pit Disassembly and Conversion Demonstration take place at LANL's Plutonium Facility-4 in Technical Area-55. No new facilities are needed to support this demonstration; however, minor internal modifications

PD



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

1875 Century Boulevard
Atlanta, Georgia 30345

IN REPLY REFER TO:

OCT 05 1998



Colonel Joe R. Miller
District Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 4970
Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019

Dear Colonel Miller:

The Fish and Wildlife Service has recently received a copy of the August 21, 1998, *Federal Register* (volume 63, page 44850) regarding the Army Corps of Engineers' intent to renourish a segment of the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project using aragonite from the Bahamas or Turks and Caicos Islands. This letter is submitted in accordance with the provisions of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 15 U.S.C. 661 *et seq.*).

A draft Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act Report dated July 28, 1998, addressing project impacts has been submitted to the Corps. As the project is in the planning stages, many of the details of plan implementation are, as of yet, unknown. Recently, it has come to our attention that conveyance of aragonite to the beach may require a pipeline to be laid across an undetermined reef area. This information was not available at the time when the draft Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act Report was prepared. If the laying of a pipe across reef habitat may be needed for project implementation, additional coordination with the Service's South Florida Field Office will be necessary.

Sincerely yours,


Linda H. Kelsey
Assistant Regional Director


PD



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

South Florida Ecosystem Office

P.O. Box 2676

Vero Beach, Florida 32961-2676

July 28, 1998

Colonel Joe R. Miller
District Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 4970
Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019

Attn: Planning Division

Dear Colonel Miller:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) has reviewed the project plans for the Dade County Beach Erosion Control project, which were attached to your letter dated March 27, 1997. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) proposes to deposit non-domestic oolitic aragonite along a mile-long reach of shoreline in Miami Beach, Dade County, Florida. The current project would be conducted as a test of material for use in beach renourishment along the coast of Florida, particularly where domestic offshore sand has become scarce. The experimental beach would be located from DEP monument markers R-39 to R-44 (between 65th and 80th Streets). The material is to be obtained from either the Bahama Banks or from the Turks and Caicos Islands. The exact source of the material will be determined during the procurement process. This draft report is submitted in accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act of 1956, as amended, (16 U.S.C. 661 *et seq.*).

Based on our evaluation of an aragonite beach on Fisher Island in Dade County, the FWS has determined that the effects of depositing 500,000 cubic yards of aragonite on Miami Beach should be insignificant to fish and wildlife resources. The ocean bottom in the area offshore of the proposed project is reported, by Dade County biologists, to be barren sand. Oolitic aragonite is reported to contain less than four percent silt and clay. This should greatly reduce project-related turbidity and reduce the threat of sedimentation on reef areas which may exist at a distance from the fill site. In addition, as no dredging offshore in waters of the United States will be required to obtain fill for this project, dredging effects normally associated with beach project construction will be eliminated.

The FWS does not object to this project, as proposed, but suggests that the COE consider the following conditions to ensure that the project is environmentally sound:

1. Only material containing less than five percent silt and clay should be deposited in the project fill area.
2. When selection of the site is made, samples of the source material should be sent to a laboratory or individual specializing in infaunal analysis. The material should be examined for any organisms which may pose a potential problem to infaunal communities native to South Florida beaches. We suggest that the COE contact Jim Colter of Mote Marine Laboratory, Sarasota County, Florida; Walt Nelson of the Environmental Protection Agency, Newport, Oregon; or Barry Vittor and Associates, Inc. of Mobile, Alabama.

Copies of this letter have been sent to the National Marine Fisheries Service and the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission for their concurrence. Their response is requested within thirty days of receipt of this letter. Copies of their comments will be forwarded to the COE as soon as they are received by the FWS.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide these comments. Should you require further clarification or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Chuck Sultzman of our office at (561) 562-3909.

Sincerely,

Kalani D. Cairns

for James J. Slack
Project Leader
South Florida Field Office

cc:

NMFS, Miami, FL
GFC, Vero Beach, FL
DEP, Tallahassee, FL



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Southeast Regional Office
9721 Executive Center Drive North
St. Petersburg, FL 33702

F/SER3:JBM

JUL 15 1998

Mr. George M. Strain
Acting Chief, Planning Division
Jacksonville District, Corps of Engineers
U.S. Department of the Army
P.O. Box 4970
Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019

Dear Mr. Strain:

This is in response to your letter of June 19, 1998, concerning Dade County's Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project to test beach fill along a portion of the Atlantic Ocean shoreline of Dade County, Miami Beach, Florida. You propose to use beach-quality material obtained from the Bahama Bank and the Turks and Caicos islands to develop alternative sources of land fill to meet future renourishment requirements. A Biological Assessment was submitted pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973, as amended.

We concur with your determination that the proposed action will not adversely affect any listed endangered and threatened species under the jurisdiction of the National Marine Fisheries Service. It is also unlikely that listed sea turtles will be impacted by this activity since 1) no hopper dredging will occur and 2) precautions will be taken to "... minimize interference with, disturbance of, or damage to wildlife resources." However, this consultation does not consider the effects to sea turtles on nesting beaches, which is under the purview of the Fish and Wildlife Service.

This concludes consultation responsibilities under Section 7 of the ESA. Consultation should be reinitiated, however, if new information reveals impacts of the identified activity that may affect listed species or their critical habitat, a new species is listed, the identified activity is subsequently modified or critical habitat determined that may be affected by the proposed activity.

If you have any questions or concerns about this matter, please contact Colleen Coogan, of the Protected Resources Division, at 727-570-5312.

Sincerely yours,


Andrew J. Kemmerer
Regional Administrator

cc: FWS - Vero Beach, FL
F/SER43 - J. Madden

file: 1514-22 f.1 FL





United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

South Florida Ecosystem Office

P.O. Box 2676

Vero Beach, Florida 32961-2676

June 30, 1998

Colonel Joe R. Miller
District Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 4970
Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019

FWS Log No: 4-1-96-268
Proposed Action: Aragonite test beach
Agency : Corps of Engineers
County: Dade

Attn: Planning Division

Dear Colonel Miller:

This responds to your letter of June 5, 1998, regarding the proposed construction of an aragonite test beach in Dade County Florida. A Biological Assessment and Scope of Work were attached to your letter. The Scope of Work, prepared by your Waterways Experiment Station, outlined the protocol for pre-project assessment. Our comments are submitted in accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

This project is within the scope of the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) Coast of Florida Study Biological Opinion (CFS-BO) and is referenced by FWS log No. 4-1-96-268. Beach renourishment at this location with sand from an offshore borrow area was addressed by the FWS in the CFS-BO and, accordingly, Section 6d. of your Biological Assessment states that the Terms and Conditions of the Coast of Florida Study Biological Opinion, as amended, will be followed.

The Corps of Engineers (COE) has determined that this action "may affect" the threatened loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*), the endangered (E) green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*), leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*)(E), and hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricata*)(E) sea turtles and the West Indian manatee (*Trichechus manatus*)(manatee).

According to your letter, the standard precautions for the protection of the manatee will be followed during construction. Risk of injury to manatees should be negligible as a result of these precautions. Thus, we concur with your determination that the project is not likely to adversely affect the manatee.

This project differs from the project covered by the CFS-BO in that aragonite sand will be imported from the Bahamas. According to the project biologist at the COE, no additional disturbance to sea turtle nesting will occur during this project than would occur during a renourishment with sand from offshore of Dade County. Thus, the FWS concurs with your determination that the project may effect threatened and endangered sea turtles and that potential adverse affect on sea turtles has been addressed in the CFS-BO. The FWS requests you provide us with a copy of the post-project assessment plans for study of sea turtle nesting at the experimental and control sites.

If modifications are made in the project or if additional information involving potential impacts on listed species becomes available, reinitiation of consultation may be warranted. If you have any questions, please contact Chuck Sultzman at (561) 562-3909.

Sincerely,



For James J. Slack
Project Leader
South Florida Field Office

cc:

FDEP-OPSM, Tallahassee, FL
FG&FFC, Vero Beach, FL
FWS, Jacksonville, FL (Attn: Sandy MacPherson)

JUN 19 1980

Planning Division
Environmental Branch

Mr. Charles A. Oravetz
Chief, Protected Species Management Branch
National Marine Fisheries Service
9721 Executive Center Drive North
St. Petersburg, Florida 33702

Dear Mr. Oravetz:

This is in reference to the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project and the proposed test beach fill along a portion of Miami Beach.

Enclosed is a Biological Assessment pursuant to Section 7(a) of the Endangered Species Act. The purpose of the test fill is to evaluate the physical and environmental performance of aragonite as a sand source for beach nourishment. Potential sources for the material are from the Bahamas Bank and the Turks and Caicos Islands. The proposed project will not involve dredging from offshore borrow areas within the Southeastern United States. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has determined that the proposed action will not adversely affect any listed species under the jurisdiction of the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Your concurrence on this determination is requested. If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact Mr. Mike Dupes at 904-232-1689.

Sincerely,

George M. Strain
Acting Chief, Planning Division

Enclosure

bcc: CESAJ-DP-I

**ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT
BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT
DADE COUNTY BEACH EROSION CONTROL AND
HURRICANE PROTECTION PROJECT**

**SUSTAINABILITY OF RENOURISHMENT
MIAMI BEACH TEST FILL**

1. PROJECT LOCATION: The study area is located along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline of Dade County on the lower southeast coast of Florida (Figure 1).

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION: Offshore borrow sources of beach quality sediment along the Dade County shoreline have been almost completely depleted, and alternative sources of material will be required in the near future to provide continued renourishment of the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project. Although carbonate sediment from offshore borrow sites has traditionally been used for project renourishment, the use of oolitic aragonite from non-domestic sources may provide an effective alternative for future renourishment requirements.

Virtually unlimited supplies of beach-quality material are available in the Bahamas Bank, located 65 miles east of the project site, and in the Turks and Caicos Islands, located approximately 500 miles to the southeast. The proposed test fill will be constructed using aragonite from one of these sources. The purpose of the test fill, in addition to providing nourishment to an eroded portion of the Federal project along northern Miami Beach, is to evaluate the physical and environmental performance of aragonite on the beach erosion control project.

The proposed test fill site is located along northern Miami Beach, and will extend along approximately one mile of shoreline which has been an erosional area since the project was constructed. The total volume of the test fill is expected to be approximately 500,000 cubic yards. The currently proposed location for the test fill is between 65th and 80th Streets in Miami Beach (DNR monuments DNR-39 to DNR-44), as shown in figure 2. The exact source of aragonite (or other carbonate sand) for the test beach would be determined during the procurement process. Sand sources proposed by contractors would have to meet a set of generic sand specifications and pass a screening process for sand characteristics and possible introduction of undesirable benthic organisms

3. REFERENCES: The following documents are incorporated into this Biological Assessment by reference.

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Biological Assessment for Dredging Navigation Channels in the Southeastern United States from North Carolina through Cape Canaveral, Florida, dated November 8, 1994.

- National Marine Fisheries Service, Regional Biological Opinion dated August 25, 1995, for Hopper dredging of channels and beach nourishment activities in the Southeastern United States from North Carolina through Florida East Coast.
- National Marine Fisheries Service Regional Biological Opinion dated September 25, 1997, for the continued hopper dredging of channels and borrow areas in the Southeastern United States.

4. LISTED SPECIES WHICH MAY BE AFFECTED: Listed species which may occur in the vicinity of the project area and are under the jurisdiction of the National Marine Fisheries Service are: loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*, T), green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*, E), leatherback sea turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*, E), hawksbill sea turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*, E), Kemp's ridley sea turtle (*Lepidochelys kempii*, E), right whale (*Eubalaena glacialis*, E),* humpback whale (*Megaptera novaeangliae*, E), finback whale (*Balaenoptera physalus*, E), sei whale (*Balaenoptera borealis*, E), and sperm whale (*Physeter macrocephalus*, E).

5. DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS TO LISTED SPECIES:

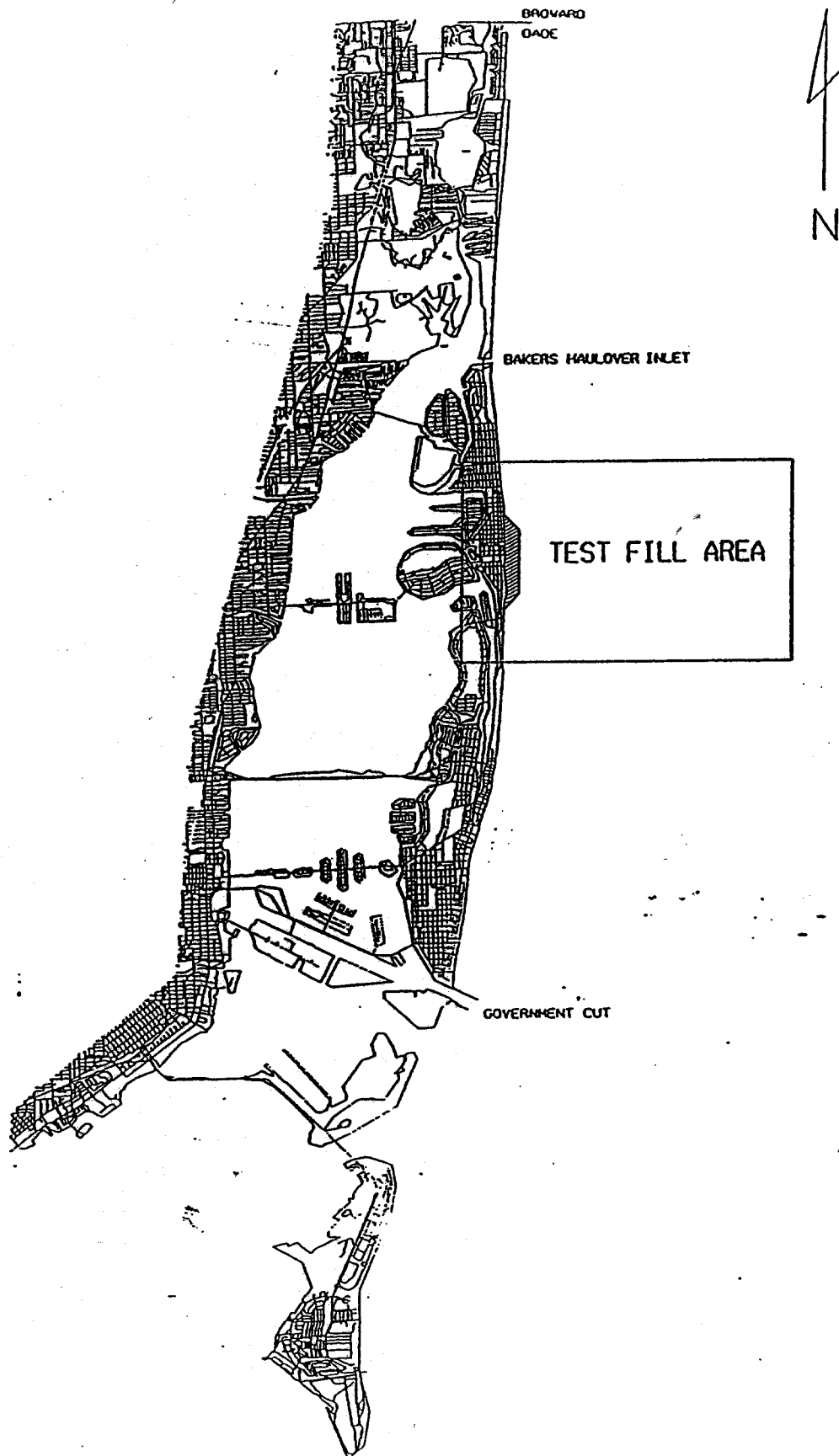
The potential impacts to listed species are discussed at length in the above referenced documents and are incorporated here by reference.

6. EFFORTS TO ELIMINATE POTENTIAL IMPACTS:

Efforts to eliminate or significantly reduce the potential impacts associated with beach nourishment activities will be addressed by implementing the following actions:

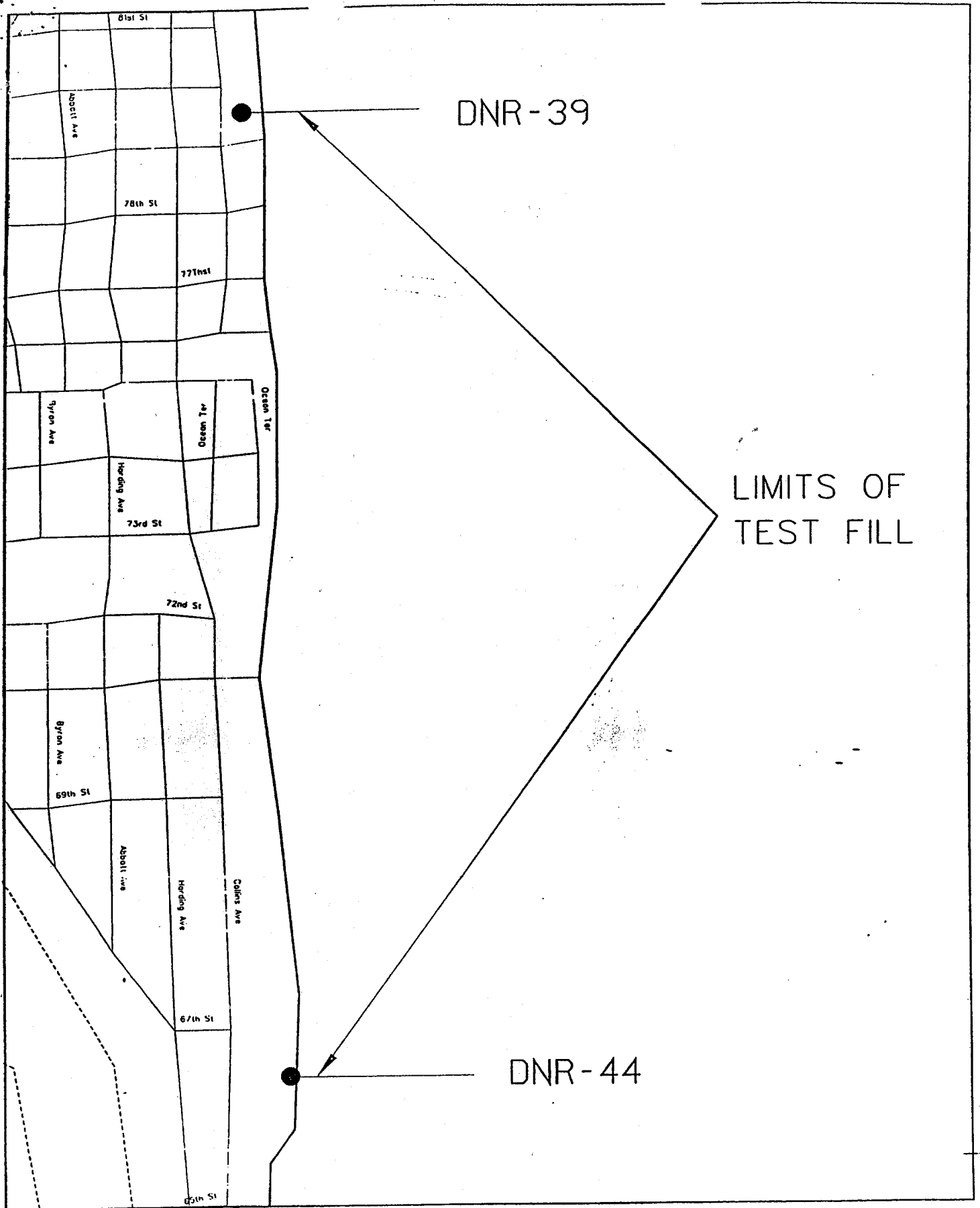
- a. Construction activities will be kept under surveillance, management, and control to minimize interference with, disturbance of, or damage to wildlife resources. Prior to the commencement of construction the contractor will be required to instruct all personnel associated with the project that endangered species could be in the area, the need to avoid collisions with them, and the civil and criminal penalties for harming, harassing or killing them.
- b. No hopper dredging will occur in borrow areas located in waters of the United States. The material to be placed on the test beach will come from a source located in foreign waters.
- c. Other methods to eliminate or minimize potential impacts are discussed in the above referenced documents and are incorporated here by reference.

7. EFFECT DETERMINATION: Because of the nature of the work, the precautions to be taken as described in the previous section, and the fact that hopper dredging will not occur in waters of the U.S., the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has determined that the proposed action will have no effect on listed species under the jurisdiction of the National Marine Fisheries service.



DADE COUNTY TEST FILL SITE

FIGURE 1



SUSTAINABILITY OF RENOURISHMENT
MIAMI BEACH TEST FILL

Figure 2

JUN 05 1998

Planning Division
Environmental Branch

Mr. James J. Slack
South Florida Field Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Post Office Box 2676
Vero Beach, Florida 32961-2676

Dear Mr. Slack:

This is in reference to the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project and the proposed test beach fill along a portion of Miami Beach.

Enclosed is a Biological Assessment pursuant to Section 7(a) of the Endangered Species Act. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has determined that the planned beach fill may affect sea turtles. Therefore, we are requesting formal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service be initiated to address potential impacts the project may have on nesting sea turtles, turtle nests, and hatchlings.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Mr. Mike Dupes at 904-232-1689.

Sincerely,

George M. Strain
Acting Chief, Planning Division

Enclosure

bcc:
CESAJ-DP-I

**ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT
BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT
DADE COUNTY BEACH EROSION CONTROL AND
HURRICANE PROTECTION PROJECT**

**SUSTAINABILITY OF RENOURISHMENT
MIAMI BEACH TEST FILL**

1. PROJECT LOCATION: The study area is located along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline of Dade County on the lower southeast coast of Florida (Figure 1).

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION: Offshore borrow sources of beach quality sediment along the Dade County shoreline have been almost completely depleted, and alternative sources of material will be required in the near future to provide continued renourishment of the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project. Although carbonate sediment from offshore borrow sites has traditionally been used for project renourishment, the use of oolitic aragonite from non-domestic sources may provide an effective alternative for future renourishment requirements.

Virtually unlimited supplies of beach-quality material are available in the Bahamas Bank, located 65 miles east of the project site, and in the Turks and Caicos Islands, located approximately 500 miles to the southeast. The proposed test fill will be constructed using aragonite from one of these sources. The purpose of the test fill, in addition to providing nourishment to an eroded portion of the Federal project along northern Miami Beach, is to evaluate the physical and environmental performance of aragonite on the beach erosion control project.

The proposed test fill site is located along northern Miami Beach, and will extend along approximately one mile of shoreline which has been an erosional area since the project was constructed. The total volume of the test fill is expected to be approximately 500,000 cubic yards. The currently proposed location for the test fill is between 65th and 80th Streets in Miami Beach (DNR monuments DNR-39 to DNR-44), as shown in figure 2. The exact source of aragonite (or other carbonate sand) for the test beach would be determined during the procurement process. Sand sources proposed by contractors would have to meet a set of generic sand specifications and pass a screening process for sand characteristics and possible introduction of undesirable benthic organisms

3. REFERENCES: Several Biological Assessments and Biological Opinions have been prepared for previous shore protection projects within Dade County. These documents are listed in the reference section and are incorporated into this Biological Assessment by reference.

4. LISTED SPECIES WHICH MAY BE AFFECTED: Listed species which may occur in the vicinity of the study area and are under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

are: loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*, T), green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*, E), leatherback sea turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*, E), hawksbill sea turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*, E), and the West Indian manatee (*Trichechus manatus*, E).

5. DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS TO LISTED SPECIES:

The potential impacts to sea turtles and manatees that can be associated with beach nourishment projects have been discussed at length in the Biological Assessments and Biological Opinions referenced above and are incorporated here by reference. The following addresses potential effects to sea turtles if calcium carbonate sand from the Bahamas is used.

Few beaches in Florida have been nourished with sand imported from the Bahamas. Fisher Island, in Miami, Florida was renourished with commercially mined aragonite in 1991. The impact of nourishment in relation to sea turtle nesting on the beach at Fisher Island has been part of a three-year study by the Sea Turtle Laboratory at the Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science. There were a total of six natural¹ nests laid in 1991 on Fisher Island beach and a total of 15 in 1992 (Lutz et al. 1991, 1992).

It has been noted that turtles nest in various types of sands, both calcareous types (including shell and aragonite) and silica types (quartz sands). Quartz sand has a hardness of 7.0 on the Mohs scale, while aragonite ranges near 4.0 (Campbell et al. 1984). The aragonite sand is physically spherical to ellipsoidal in shape and is denser than native sand. The mean grain size ranges from 0.25 mm to 0.29 mm and is moderately sorted (U. S. Army Corps of Engineers 1995). The increased density and shape of the aragonite tend to make it behave as a larger grain sized material. Aragonite sand has a lower silt/clay content than natural offshore borrow sources. Aragonite would tend to be more stable than native Florida sands because of its spherical shape and higher specific gravity. Aragonite has essentially no material finer than 200 microns and is well sorted with peaks at 300 to 500 microns (Wanless 1983). Because of the small amount of fines, the use of aragonite in beach nourishment is expected to reduce turbidity-related impacts, both in the nearshore zone and near the offshore reefs (Coastal Planning & Engineering 1994).

In addition to the monitoring of the natural nests in the Fisher Island Study, nests from Juno Beach, Jupiter, Florida, were relocated and monitored at two hatcheries, one filled with aragonite and the other filled with Florida sand. The hatcheries were located approximately 75 feet from the shore on the east side of the renourished Fisher Island beach (Lutz et al. 1991). First year results revealed that aragonite sand on average is 2°C cooler than Florida silicate, significantly extending incubation times by 5 days and quite possibly altering natural sex ratios (Lutz et al. 1991). This temperature difference was also noted in the 1992 study. The Fisher Island Study showed no significant differences in hatchling size or hatching success of hatchlings between aragonite and Florida sand nests. The 1992 study revealed similar results as the 1991 study.

¹ "Natural" nests refers to nests that were left on the beach undisturbed, i.e. unrelocated nests.

While sea turtles do successfully nest in aragonite sands, it is possible that the rate of success (portion of nests to total crawls) would be different from that in native sand. Because of the cooler temperatures found in aragonite, this may affect incubation time and could alter hatchling sex ratios. A 2°C change may lower the temperature below the pivotal point, therefore potentially causing more males than originally expected (Mrosovsky and Yntema 1980).

To try and answer some of the questions concerning the effects of alternative sand sources on sea turtles a hatchery study was initiated in 1995 at Miami Beach, Florida (Nelson et. al. 1996). The sand types used included: native Miami Beach Sand, Bahamian aragonite sand, renourished sand (from an offshore borrow source) and a 1 to 1 mixture of renourished sand and Bahamian aragonite. The following parameters were studied: nest success measurements (nest incubation period, hatching success, and hatchling size); temperature measurements (sand and nest), and nest sex ratios. The results of this study found no differences in hatchling size and sex ratios for the four sand types tested. Incubation periods were longer and nest temperatures were cooler for nests incubated in aragonite sand. Incubation time was significantly longer in the aragonite sand than the other sands tested. Hatching success was significantly higher in the renourished and the mixed sands than the native sands. The hatching success of the nests in aragonite was not significantly different than the other sand types. A copy of the report, *Evaluation of Alternative Beach Nourishment Sands as Loggerhead Sea Turtle Nesting Substrates*, prepared for the 1995 study is attached to this Biological Assessment as supplemental information (attachment 1). Additional hatchery studies were conducted during the 1996 and 1997 nesting seasons. The results from these studies will be provided when available.

6. EFFORTS TO ELIMINATE POTENTIAL IMPACTS:

Efforts to eliminate or significantly reduce the potential impacts associated with beach nourishment activities will be addressed by implementing the following actions:

- a. Construction activities will be kept under surveillance, management, and control to minimize interference with, disturbance of, or damage to wildlife resources. Prior to the commencement of construction the contractor will be required to instruct all personnel associated with the project that endangered species could be in the area, the need to avoid collisions with them, and the civil and criminal penalties for harming, harassing or killing them.
- b. Construction access and staging areas along the beach will be identified in the contract plans and specifications. Contractor vehicles, construction equipment and storage facilities will be required to stay within the identified construction area.
- c. Precautions will be taken during construction activities to insure the safety of the manatee. To insure the contractor and his personnel are aware of the potential presence of the manatee in the project area, their endangered status, and the need for precautionary measures, the contract specifications will include the standard protection clauses concerning manatees. All small vessels associated with the project will be required to operate at "no wake" speeds at all times.

while in shallow water, or channels, where the draft of the vessel provides less than three feet clearance from the bottom. Boats used to transport personnel shall be shallow draft vessels, preferably of the light-displacement category, where navigational safety permits. Vessels transporting personnel between the landing and any workboat shall follow routes of deep water to the extent possible. The contractor shall be held responsible for any manatee harmed, harassed, or killed as a result of the construction of the project. If a manatee is sighted within a hundred yards of the dredging area, appropriate safeguards will be taken, including suspension of dredging, if necessary, to avoid injury to manatees.

d. To eliminate or significantly reduce potential impacts to sea turtles, the Terms and Conditions outlined in the USFWS Biological Opinion (FWS Log No.: 4-1-96-F-268) dated October 24, 1996 for the Coast of Florida Erosion and Storm Effects Study, Region III, as amended by the letter of January 29, 1998 will be followed.

e. Any incident involving the death or injury of any listed threatened or endangered species described in this Biological Assessment shall be immediately reported to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Jacksonville) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Vero Beach).

f. Pre- and post-construction monitoring of sea turtle nests on the test beach and two reference beaches will be conducted. A copy of the scope of work for the pre-construction monitoring is attached (attachment 2).

7. EFFECT DETERMINATION: Because of the nature of the work and the precautions to be taken as described in the previous section, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has determined that the proposed action will have no effect on the manatee. Because of the potential effects associated with nesting sea turtles, sea turtle nests, and hatchlings, we have determined that the proposed action may affect sea turtles.

REFERENCES

Previous Biological Assessments prepared by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Dade County Shore Protection Project, Sunny Isles and Miami Beach Segments - April 23, 1993.

Dade County Shore Protection Project, Surfside and South Miami Beach Segments - December 21, 1993.

Dade County Shore Protection Project, Modifications at Sunny – June 3, 1994.

Coast of Florida Erosion and Storm Effects Study, Region III – October 5, 1995.

Dade County Shore Protection Project, Bal Harbour Segment – April 8, 1997.

Previous Biological Opinions Prepared by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Dade County Shore Protection Project, Sunny Isles and Miami Beach Segments – August 11, 1993, amended July 28, 1994.

Dade County Shore Protection Project, Surfside and South Miami Beach Segments – April 15, 1994.

Coast of Florida Erosion and Storm Effects Study, Region III – October 24, 1996

Other References.

Campbell, Thomas J., P.E., Robert G. Dean, Sc.D., Norman H. Beumel, and R. Harvey Sasso. 1984. Engineering and economic evaluation of aragonite sand vs offshore borrow material. 24 pp.

Coastal Planning & Engineering, Inc. 1994. Feasibility Study for the use of aragonite sand for beach renourishment in Broward County. 57 pp.

Lutz, Peter L., Alexis A. Schulman, and Sarah L. Shaw. 1991. Fisher Island sea turtle project annual report 1991. 51 pp.

Lutz, Peter L., Alexis A. Schulman, and Sarah L. Shaw. 1992. Fisher Island sea turtle project annual report 1992. 49 pp.

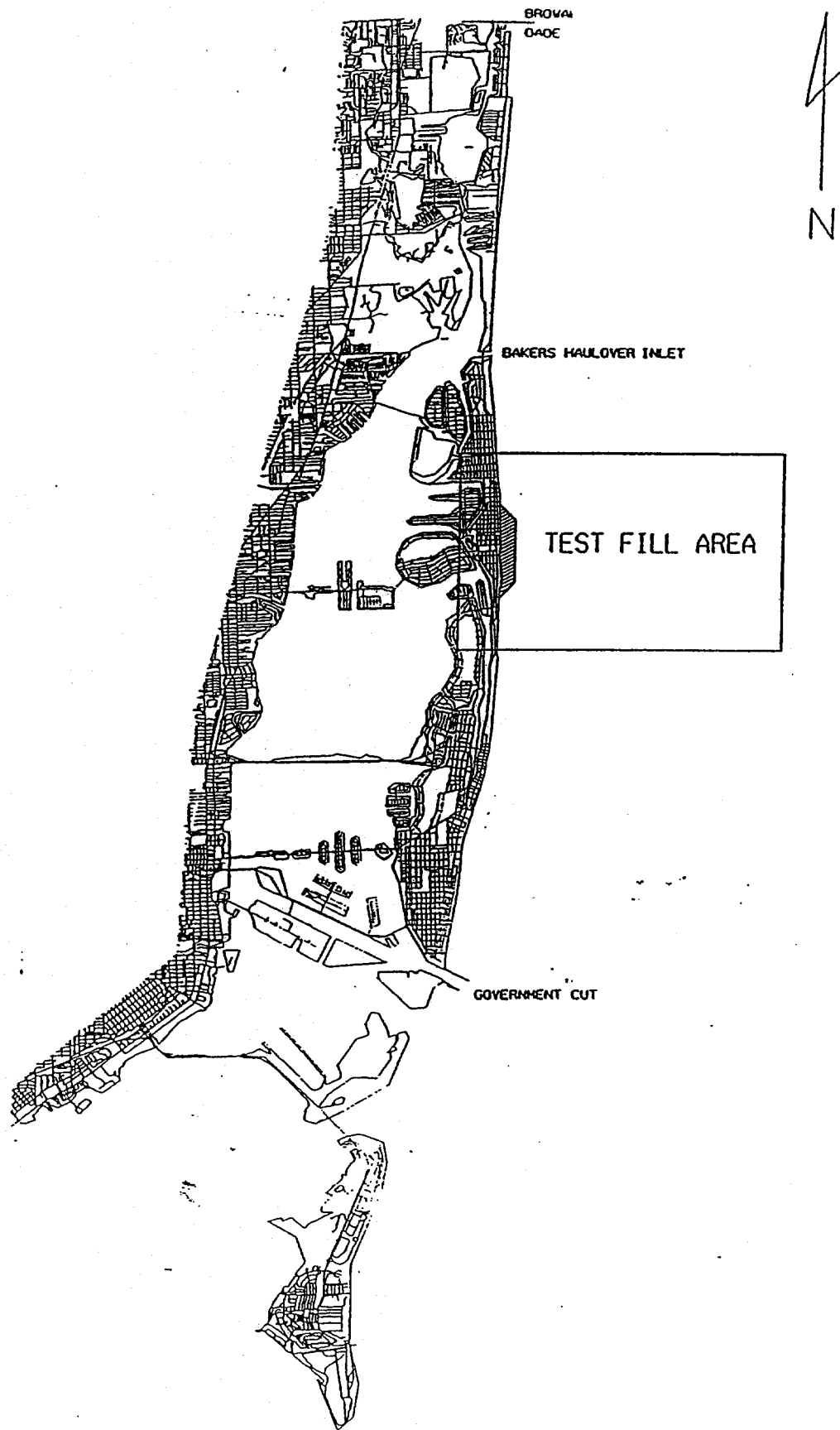
Mrosovsky, N. and C. L. Yntema. 1980. Temperature dependence of sexual differentiation in

sea turtles: implications for conservation practices. *Biological Conservation* 18:271-280.

Nelson, David A., Stephen M. Blair, Rebecca Cheeks, Peter L. Lutz, Sarah L. Milton, and Timothy S. Gross. 1996. Evaluation of Alternative Beach Nourishment Sands as Loggerhead Sea Turtle Nesting Substrates. U.S. Army Engineer Waterways Experiment Station, Vicksburg, Mississippi.

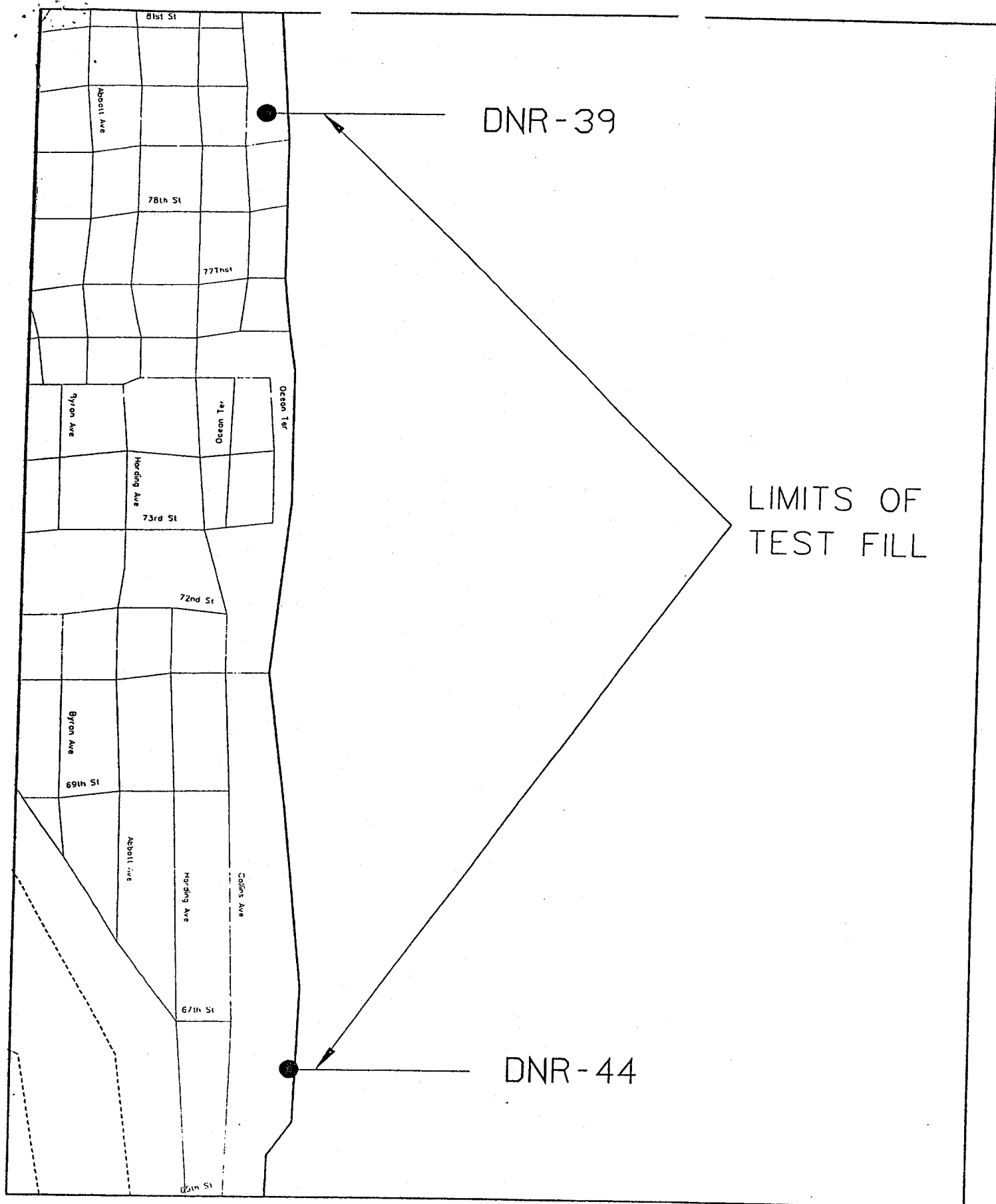
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. 1995. Environmental Assessment for the second periodic nourishment of Sunny Isles and Miami Beach Segments, Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project, Dade County, Florida. 74 pp.

Wanless, Harold R. October 18, 1993. Comparative grain size analyses of an oolitic sand and sands from potential borrow areas in southeast Florida. Arthur V. Strock & Associates, Inc. 19 pp.



DADE COUNTY TEST FILL SITE

FIGURE 1



SUSTAINABILITY OF RENOURISHMENT
MIAMI BEACH TEST FILL

Figure 2



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4

ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
100 ALABAMA STREET, S.W.
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-3104

JUN 17 1997

District Engineer, Jacksonville
P.O. Box 4970
Jacksonville, FL 32232

Attn: Mr. Hanley K. Smith (CESAJ-PD-PF)
Acting Chief, Planning Division

Subject: Use of Foreign Non-Native Material for Beach Erosion
Control and Hurricane Protection, Dade County, Florida

Dear Sir:

In a recent correspondence EPA, Region 4 indicated that it had no significant objections to using "foreign aragonite" material as part of a commercial scale study for the Surfside segment (R-31 to R-36) of the Surfside/South Miami Beach project. However, as a result of subsequent coordination with your staff, we determined that the test reach is actually one mile south of Surfside. Nonetheless, since intensified shoreline development in south Florida makes it likely that nourishment projects will be considered for the majority of the coastline, acquiring borrow material and moving it onshore become operative issues for interagency discussion. Hence, our original concurrence remains valid.

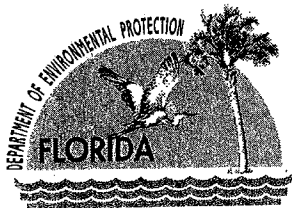
On the basis of the limited information in the May 6, 1997, letter together with discussions with Jacksonville technical staff it appears that acquisition of the subject nourishment material could be accomplished from dynamic shoal areas at acceptable environmental costs. However, in this country direct transport of the material hydraulically from the barge onto the subject beach will be the most problematic aspect of the fill operation, viz., the sediment plume impacting live bottoms. On the other hand, if the material is intermodally handled, viz., barge to truck to beach, there is another set of issues which will have to be evaluated, e.g., air quality considerations along the haul route(s), traffic congestion at the unloading sites, accelerated roadway wear from heavy trucks, associated health/safety issues, etc..

Because of the long-term environmental consequences of beach nourishment, we look forward with interest regarding the constituents of the final scope of work for this proposal. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If we can be of further assistance in the interim, Dr. Gerald Miller (404-562-9626) will serve as initial point of contact.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Heinz J. Mueller". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized script.

Heinz J. Mueller, Chief
Office of Environmental Assessment



Department of Environmental Protection

Lawton Chiles
Governor

Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000

Virginia B. Wetherell
Secretary

June 13, 1997

Mr. Hanley K. Smith
Acting Chief, Planning Division
Department of the Army
Jacksonville District Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 4970
Jacksonville, FL 32231-0019

Dear Mr. Smith:

I have reviewed the test beach proposal contained in your letter of May 3, 1997, to David Arnold. The environmental testing program for marine turtles was fairly detailed; additional clarification of components of the experimental design are listed below.

Experimental analyses should be designed to determine if placement of foreign aragonite on marine turtle nesting beaches alters marine turtle nesting behavior and success. Marine turtle nesting patterns and success vary both temporally among years and spatially along the shoreline. To detect treatment effects, in this case placement of foreign aragonite, on the response variable, marine turtle nesting patterns and success, a test beach site and a control site must be identified. Background and baseline information must be collected on both sites.

The test beach and control sites should be as similar as possible with respect to background conditions, including slope, temperature, color, moisture, gas exchange, lighting, overland drainage, upland development, beach/dune profile, nearshore environment and biotic communities, and offshore bathymetry. Marine turtle nesting patterns, including nest density, nest to false crawl ratio, hatch success, and emergence success, should also not differ between the test and control beach prior to the placement of the foreign aragonite. Differences between the two sites should be assessed by comparing one or more years of baseline measurements from the test and control beach prior to the nourishment activity.

Standard experimental methodology requires that the test and control beach be treated identically with the exception of the treatment effect. Thus, the control beach should be nourished with native beach sand at the same interval and using the same methodology as the test beach. Otherwise, we will not be able to separate differences in marine turtle nesting due to renourishment in general from differences due to use of foreign aragonite as fill material, if any exist.

Postconstruction measurements of substrate suitability, including scarps, compaction, slope, stability, temperature, color, moisture and gas exchange, should be collected on both the test and control beaches after nourishment. Marine turtle nest site selection, including the number of false crawls, the type of false crawl, the number of nests, nest morphology, the false crawl to nest ratio, and nest success parameters, including incubation period, nest success, sex ratios, and emergence success, should be collected on both test and control beaches after nourishment. The number, duration, and location of scarps and associated false crawls, should also be measured.

"Protect, Conserve and Manage Florida's Environment and Natural Resources"

Printed on recycled paper.

Letter to H. Smith

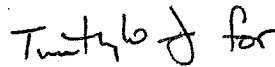
June 13, 1997

Page 2

Given the lower density of marine turtle nests in Dade County, there is potential that there will be too few nests on the test or control beach for statistical comparisons. A similar study has been proposed for Broward County. Addition of a second control and test plot in Broward County would increase the power of the proposed experiments to assess effects of a foreign aragonite source on marine turtle nesting. This additional set of experiments should be implemented simultaneously, if possible.

Please contact me at (904)922-4330 if you have questions about my comments. I look forward to working with you on an optimal design for the foreign aragonite test beach study.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Trindell" followed by a stylized flourish.

Robbin N. Trindell, Ph.D.
Biological Administrator
Bureau of Protected Species Management



Department of Natural Resource Protection

Biological Resources Division

218 S.W. 1st Avenue

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

(954) 519-1230 • FAX (954) 519-1412

June 2, 1997

Dr. Hanley K. Smith, Acting Chief, Planning Division
Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District
P.O. Box 4970
Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019

Dear Dr. Smith:


Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the diagram for environmental testing of a nourishment project using experimental non-domestic beach fill. We have reviewed the diagram and conclude that the major elements necessary for proper evaluation of the material are present.

There remains a question, however, about whether sufficient sea turtle nesting occurs at the proposed test beach to adequately evaluate this parameter. As you may remember, two years ago a meeting was held at John U. Lloyd Beach in Broward County among Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt, Congressman E. Clay Shaw, Jr., Jacksonville District Engineer Col. Terry Rice, and others, at which a decision was made and announced that a Broward component of the test project would be needed to test for sea turtle nesting. Discussions at the Jacksonville meetings in April also addressed this question.

We believe that a test site at John U. Lloyd Beach State Recreation Area would provide adequate sea turtle nesting activity data for input into the evaluation program. Accordingly, we request that the scope of work developed for the program be formulated such that Broward County can incorporate the appropriate parameters and protocols into our ongoing sea turtle conservation program. This is particularly important with respect to the gathering of pre-project baseline information.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important program. Please continue to include this office when distributing materials for review and comment. Should you have questions or comments on the foregoing, please feel free to contact me at the letterhead address, or call directly at (954) 519-1265.

Sincerely,


Stephen Higgins
Beach Erosion Administrator

c: Eric Myers, Director Biological Resources Division
Pamela Landi, Legislative Aide (Coastal), Office of Congressman E. Clay Shaw, Jr.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Southeast Regional Office
9721 Executive Center Drive North
St. Petersburg, Florida 33702

May 27, 1997

Colonel Terry Rice
District Engineer, Jacksonville District
Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers
Planning Division, Environmental Branch
P.O. Box 4970
Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019

Dear Colonel Rice:

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has reviewed your request for comments dated May 6, 1997, regarding the environmental testing for a test beach composed of aragonite sand. The test beach would be about one mile in length and consist of approximately 500,000 cubic yards of foreign aragonite sand. The project is located in waters of the Atlantic Ocean, Dade County, Florida.

The proposed environmental testing consists of three major components: sea turtles, benthic organisms, and reef, hard grounds and seagrasses. Sea turtles using beaches for nesting are under the jurisdiction of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Any in-water impacts to sea turtles under the jurisdiction of the NMFS should be addressed by our Protected Species Management Branch.

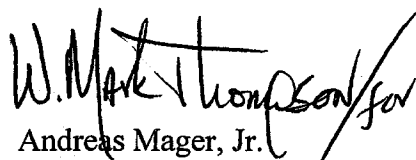
The NMFS supports monitoring the impacts to benthic infaunal communities for this and other beach nourishment projects to determine the rate of recovery. This information will be important in assessing future projects. A potential source of information for this monitoring effort is a document prepared for the Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District entitled: *A Review and Synthesis of Data on Surf Zone Fishes and Invertebrates in the South Atlantic Bight and the Potential Impacts from Beach Nourishment*.

The environmental testing section for reef, hard grounds and seagrasses should develop allowable levels of turbidity and sedimentation during nourishment activities that are protective of the nearshore environment. These levels should be monitored by measurements other than the State of Florida Water Quality Standards (WQS). The WQS for turbidity (29 NTUs), commonly applied to beach nourishment projects, does not appear to be protective of sensitive habitats such as coral reefs and nearshore hard grounds. Turbidity and sedimentation measurements should be based on the light requirements or tolerances of seagrasses or the ability of corals to cope with sedimentation, respectively. These values may be generated from the literature, but should be reviewed by seagrass and coral experts.



We look forward to reviewing the detailed scope of work for the environmental testing of the suitability of aragonite sands. If you have questions concerning these comments, please contact Mr. John Iliff of our Panama City Branch Office in Miami at 305/595-8352.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "W. Mark Thompson for". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

Andreas Mager, Jr.
Assistant Regional Director
Habitat Conservation Division

cc:

F/SEO2

F/SEO2-Miami



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

South Florida Ecosystem Office

P.O. Box 2676

Vero Beach, Florida 32961-2676

May 16, 1997

Colonel Terry Rice
District Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 4970
Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019

Attn: Planning Division

Dear Colonel Rice:

Thank you for your letter, dated May 6, 1997, regarding the proposed aragonite test beach in Dade County, Florida. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) has reviewed the letter and provides the following comments on the proposed study.

Your letter and the attached study diagram do not indicate whether or not this is a scientifically controlled study. Unless tested as such, the FWS would view the results of this study inconclusive and would not endorse the wide spread use of aragonite on south Florida's beaches. The study would require a control site as well as a sample size large enough to yield statistically valid results to support its conclusions. Furthermore, we question whether or not enough sea turtle nests would be laid along one mile of Dade County beach to provide the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers with a sufficient sample size. Finally, the results of the study should be subjected to peer review by experts who have published their results of related studies in each study component.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide these comments. If you require further clarification or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Charles Sultzman of my staff at (561) 562-3909.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas E. Grahl, Acting Field Supervisor
South Florida Ecosystem Office

cc:

FDEP (OPSM), Tallahassee, FL

FWS, Jacksonville, FL (Attn: Sandy MacPherson)

MAY 6 1997

Planning Division
Environmental Branch

Mr. David Arnold
Bureau of Protected Species
Department of Environmental Protection
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Dear Mr. Arnold:

mt I am writing you concerning a proposed test beach to determine the suitability of foreign aragonite sands for beach nourishment. Since your office has expertise and/or regulatory responsibility for beach nourishment, I am requesting your comments on this effort.

The test beach would consist of approximately 500,000 cubic yards of material placed on about 1 mile of beach in Dade County, Florida (see attached map). In selecting this site, we considered a number of factors including suitability for testing engineering and environmental properties. Also, since this effort is being funded as part of a civil works project, it must provide a shoreline protection benefit for an authorized Federal project and have a cost sharing local sponsor.

I have enclosed a diagram showing the overall approach for the environmental testing. These items were developed as a result of the recent Conference on Sustainability of Renourishment held on April 24 and 25, 1997 here in Jacksonville and other meetings and discussions.

Please review and comment on the proposed environmental testing. Indicate any items needed to make the testing suitable for determining the acceptability of using foreign aragonite sands for beach nourishment in Dade County and possibly other areas of the state. Upon receipt of your comments, we plan to develop a detailed scope of work.

Since there is a critical need to develop new sand sources for Dade County, I request your comments within three weeks of the date of this letter. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Kenneth Dugger of my staff at 904-232-1686.

Sincerely,



Hanley K. Smith
Acting Chief, Planning Division

Enclosures

Copies Furnished:

Robin Trindell, Ph.D., Bureau of Protected Species, Department of
Environmental Protection, 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard,
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
Ms. Ann Lazar, Environmental Specialist, Department of
Environmental Protection, 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, MS 310,
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
Ms. Beth Morford, Environmental Specialist, Department of
Environmental Protection, 19100 S.E. Federal Highway, Tequesta,
Florida 33469
Mr. Ralph Clark, Beaches and Coastal Systems, Department of
Environmental Protection, Post Office Box 38356, Tallahassee,
Florida 32315

MAY 6 1997

Planning Division
Environmental Branch

Mr. Thomas Grahl
Acting Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Post Office Box 2676
Vero Beach, Florida 32961-2676

Dear Mr. Grahl:

I am writing you concerning a proposed test beach to determine the suitability of foreign aragonite sands for beach nourishment. Since your office has expertise and/or regulatory responsibility for beach nourishment, I am requesting your comments on this effort.

The test beach would consist of approximately 500,000 cubic yards of material placed on about 1 mile of beach in Dade County, Florida (see attached map). In selecting this site, we considered a number of factors including suitability for testing engineering and environmental properties. Also, since this effort is being funded as part of a civil works project, it must provide a shoreline protection benefit for an authorized Federal project and have a cost sharing local sponsor.

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Sincerely,



Hanley K. Smith
Acting Chief, Planning Division

Enclosures

Copy Furnished:

Ms. Sandy MacPherson, Regional Sea Turtle Coordinator, U.S. Fish
and Wildlife Service, 6620 Southpoint Drive South, Suite 310,
Jacksonville, Florida 32216

MAY 8 1997

Planning Division
Environmental Branch

Mr. Andrew J. Kemmerer
Regional Director
National Marine Fisheries Service
9721 Executive Center Drive North
St. Petersburg, Florida 33702-2449

Dear Mr. Kemmerer:

I am writing you concerning a proposed test beach to determine the suitability of foreign aragonite sands for beach nourishment. Since your office has expertise and/or regulatory responsibility for beach nourishment, I am requesting your comments on this effort.

The test beach would consist of approximately 500,000 cubic yards of material placed on about 1 mile of beach in Dade County, Florida (see attached map). In selecting this site, we considered a number of factors including suitability for testing engineering and environmental properties. Also, since this effort is being funded as part of a civil works project, it must provide a shoreline protection benefit for an authorized Federal project and have a cost sharing local sponsor. The proposed test beach would be placed on a portion of the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project.

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Since there is a critical need to develop new sand sources for Dade County, I request your comments within three weeks of the date of this letter. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Kenneth Dugger of my staff at 904-232-1686.

Sincerely,



Hanley K. Smith
Acting Chief, Planning Division

Enclosures

Copy Furnished:

Mr. Charles A. Oravetz, Chief, Protected Species Branch, National
Marine Fisheries Service, 9721 Executive Center Drive North,
St. Petersburg, Florida 33702-2449

APR 26 1997

Planning Division
Environmental Branch

Mr. Carlos Espinosa
Dade County DERM
Suite 300
33 Southwest 2nd Avenue
Miami, FL 33130

Dear Mr. Espinosa:

Mr. I am writing you concerning a proposed test beach to determine the suitability of foreign aragonite sands for beach nourishment. Since your office has expertise and/or regulatory responsibility for beach nourishment, I am requesting your comments on this effort.

The test beach would consist of approximately 500,000 cubic yards of material placed on about 1 mile of beach in Dade County, Florida (see attached map). In selecting this site, we considered a number of factors including suitability for testing engineering and environmental properties. Also, since this effort is being funded as part of a civil works project, it must provide a shoreline protection benefit for an authorized Federal project and have a cost sharing local sponsor.

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Since there is a critical need to develop new sand sources for Dade County, I request your comments within three weeks of the date of this letter. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Kenneth Dugger of my staff at 904-232-1686.

Sincerely,



Hanley K. Smith
Acting Chief, Planning Division

Enclosures

Copy Furnished:

Mr. Brian Flynn, Dade County DERM, 33 Southwest 2nd Avenue,
Suite 300, Miami, Florida 33130

Planning Division
Environmental Branch

Mr. Raymond R. Carthy
Archie Carr Center for Sea
Turtle Research
University of Florida
Gainesville, Florida 32608

Dear Mr. Carthy:

I am writing you concerning a proposed test beach to determine the suitability of foreign aragonite sands for beach nourishment. Since your office has expertise and/or regulatory responsibility for beach nourishment, I am requesting your comments on this effort.


The test beach would consist of approximately 500,000 cubic yards of material placed on about 1 mile of beach in Dade County, Florida (see attached map). In selecting this site, we considered a number of factors including suitability for testing engineering and environmental properties. Also, since this effort is being funded as part of a civil works project, it must provide a shoreline protection benefit for an authorized Federal project and have a cost sharing local sponsor.

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Since there is a critical need to develop new sand sources for Dade County, I request your comments within three weeks of the date of this letter. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Kenneth Dugger of my staff at 904-232-1686.

Sincerely,


Hanley K. Smith
Acting Chief, Planning Division

Enclosures

Copy Furnished:

Jeanne A. Mortimer, Ph.D., Caribbean Conservation Corporation,
Post Office Box 2865, Gainesville, Florida 32602-2866

ENV - C 1007

Planning Division
Environmental Branch

Ms. Sandy MacPherson
Regional Sea Turtle Coordinator
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
6620 Southpoint Drive South, Suite 310
Jacksonville, Florida 32216

Dear Ms. MacPherson:

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Sincerely,



Hanley K. Smith
Acting Chief, Planning Division

Enclosures

Copy Furnished:

Mr. Thomas Grahl, Acting Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Post Office Box 2676, Vero Beach, Florida 32961-2676

MAY 6 1997

Planning Division
Environmental Branch

Mr. Steve Higgins
Beach Erosion Administrator
Broward County DNRP
218 Southwest 1st Avenue
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33301

Dear Mr. Higgins:

I am writing you concerning a proposed test beach to determine the suitability of foreign aragonite sands for beach nourishment. Since your office has expertise and/or regulatory responsibility for beach nourishment, I am requesting your comments on this effort.


The test beach would consist of approximately 500,000 cubic yards of material placed on about 1 mile of beach in Dade County, Florida (see attached map). In selecting this site, we considered a number of factors including suitability for testing engineering and environmental properties. Also, since this effort is being funded as part of a civil works project, it must provide a shoreline protection benefit for an authorized Federal project and have a cost sharing local sponsor.

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Sincerely,


Hanley K. Smith
Acting Chief, Planning Division

Enclosures

MAY 6 1997

Planning Division
Environmental Branch

Mr. John Hankinson, Jr.
Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
100 Alabama Street, Southwest
Atlanta, GA 30303-3104

Dear Mr. Hankinson:

I am writing you concerning a proposed test beach to determine the suitability of foreign aragonite sands for beach nourishment. Since your office has expertise and/or regulatory responsibility for beach nourishment, I am requesting your comments on this effort.

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Sincerely,



Hanley K. Smith
Acting Chief, Planning Division

Enclosures

Copies Furnished:

Mr. Tom Welborn, Wetlands Unit, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 100 Alabama Street, Southwest, Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3104

Mr. Heinz J. Mueller, Chief, Environmental Policy Section, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 100 Alabama Street, Southwest, Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3104

NEW 6. 1997

Planning Division
Environmental Branch

Mr. Bradley J. Hartman, Director
Office of Environmental Services
Game and Freshwater Fish Commission
620 South Meridian Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1600

Dear Mr. Hartman:

I am writing you concerning a proposed test beach to determine the suitability of foreign aragonite sands for beach nourishment. Since your office has expertise and/or regulatory responsibility for beach nourishment, I am requesting your comments on this effort.

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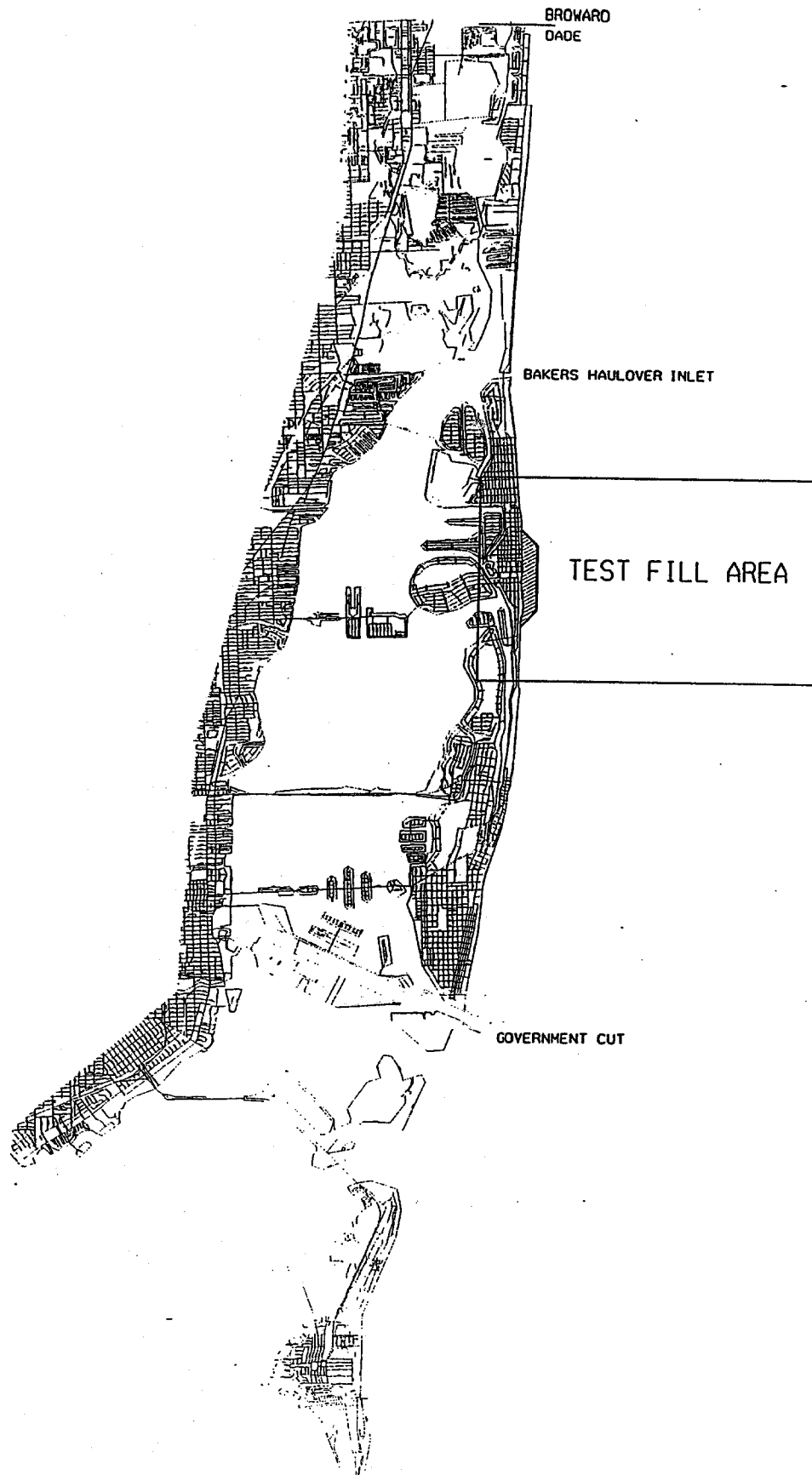
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'H. K. Smith', written in a cursive style.

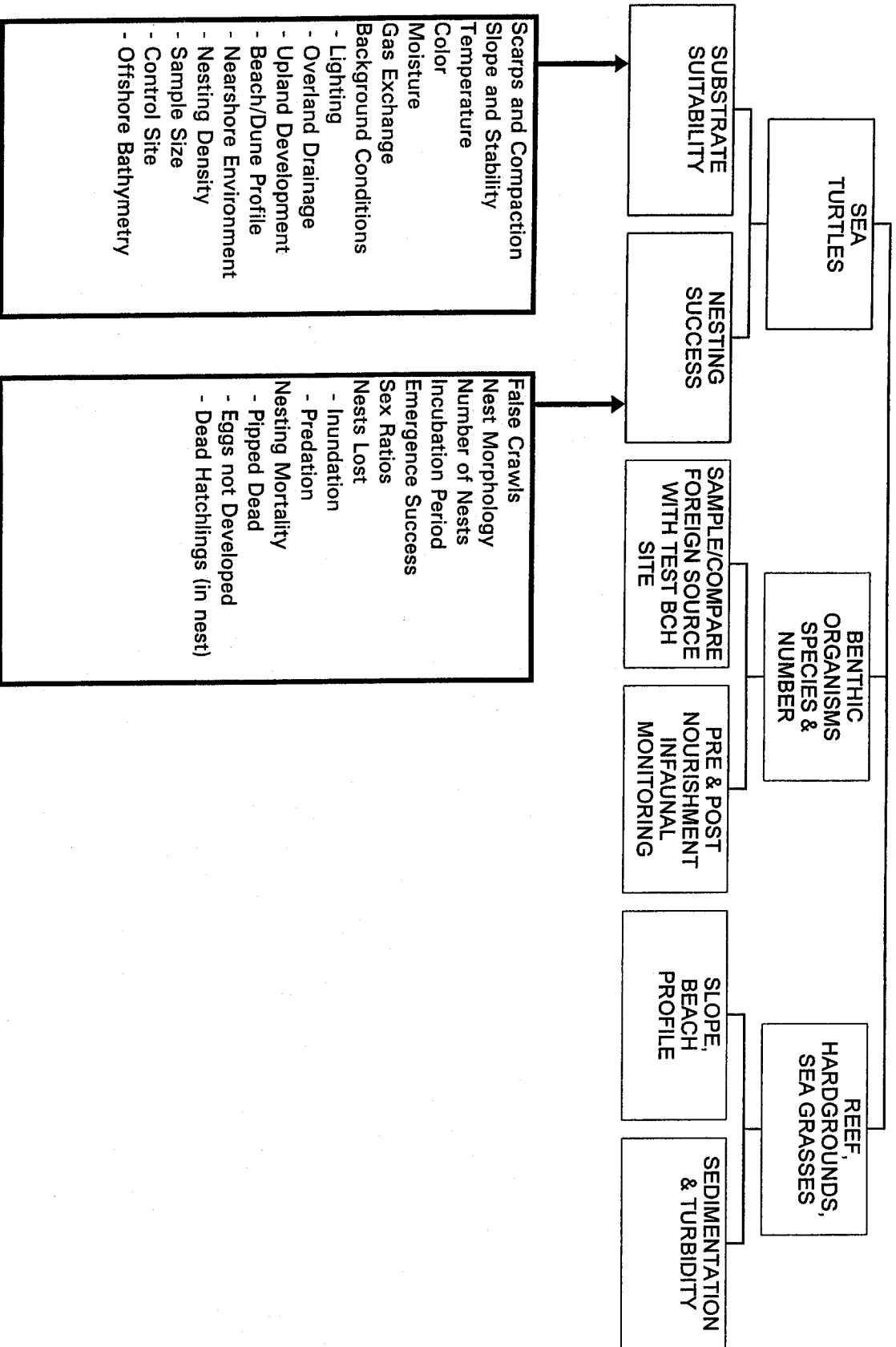
Hanley K. Smith
Acting Chief, Planning Division

Enclosures



DADE COUNTY TEST FILL SITE

ENVIRONMENTAL TESTING TEST BEACH FOREIGN ARAGONITE



April 8, 1997

Programs and Project Management Division
Project Management Branch

Dear Conference Attendee:

This is to invite you or your representative to attend a conference to be held in Jacksonville, Florida, on April 24 and 25, 1997, concerning the future renourishment of the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project.

The purpose of the conference is to evaluate the schedule and tasks required for use of alternative sand sources for future renourishment of the project. The conference is open to all interested parties. Enclosed is an agenda for the conference.

The conference will be held at the Omni Hotel, 245 Water Street, which is across the street from our office. The hotel currently has a room rate of \$119 per night available. This rate is subject to change depending upon availability. Please reference the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers conference if you desire to reserve a room and secure this rate. To make a reservation with the hotel, please call 904-355-6664 or 1-800-THE-OMNI.

A block of 40 rooms has also been reserved at the Radisson Riverwalk Hotel for the night of April 24th. The room rate is \$65 per night, which equals the Federal government per diem rate. The hotel will accept a tax exempt form. To make a reservation with this hotel, please call 904-232-0842 or 1-800-333-3333.

If you have any questions or desire to be included on one of the panels, please contact Mr. Charles Stevens of our office at 904-232-2113.

Sincerely,

SIGNED: Richard E. Bonner

Richard E. Bonner, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer
for Project Management

Enclosure

Dade County Beach Erosion Control
and Hurricane Protection Project

Conference on the Sustainability of Renourishment

Jacksonville, Florida
April 24 and 25, 1997

-AGENDA-

Thursday, April 24, 1997

1:00 - 1:15	Welcome	Mr. Richard Bonner, CE
1:15 - 1:45	Opening Remarks	Mr. Carlos Espinosa, DERM Mr. Steve Higgins, DNRP
1:45 - 2:00	Project Overview/ Status	Mr. Charles Stevens, CE
2:00 - 2:15	Sponsors' Overview	Mr. Brian Flynn, DERM Mr. Steve Higgins, DNRP
2:15 - 2:45	Network Analyses For Sand Sources	Mr. Stevens, CE
2:45 - 3:00	Geotechnical Update/ Status of Sand Source Specification	Mr. Doug Rosen, CE
3:00 - 3:15	BREAK	
3:15 - 3:30	Coastal Engineering Report on Sediment Budget	Mr. Harvey Sasso, Coastal Systems International, Inc.
3:30 - 3:50	Environmental Criteria Suitability of Material For Beach Placement	Mr. Kenneth Dugger, CE
3:50 - 4:20	Update on Turtle Nest Hatchery Study	Mr. Dave Nelson, CEWES
4:20 - 4:30	Summary Discussion on Network Analyses Revisions/ Impacts for Next Days Conference	Panel Discussion

Dade County Beach Erosion Control
and Hurricane Protection Project

Conference on the Sustainability of Renourishment

Jacksonville, Florida
April 25, 1997

-AGENDA-

Friday, April 25, 1997

9:00 - 9:45	Panel on Potential Sand Sources: Upland and non-Domestic Sources	Companies and Consultants with Information on Sand Sources
9:45 - 10:15	Panel on Test Beach Proposal : Identification of Goals and Monitoring Objectives	CE, CEWES, DEP, DERM, DNRP Other Federal Agencies
10:15 - 10:30	BREAK	
10:30 - 11:00	Summary of Anticipated Environmental Coord. Requirements	Mr. Dugger, CE
11:00 - 11:30	Summary of Anticipated Engineering & Design Requirements	Mr. Tom Martin, CE
11:30 - 12:00	Discussion of Work Planned Prior to the Next Conference	Mr. Stevens, CE
12:00	ADJOURN	

*Abbreviations:

CE: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
CEWES: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Waterways Experiment Station
DEP: State of Florida, Department of Environmental Protection
DERM: Metropolitan Dade County, Department of Environmental Resources Management
DNRP: Broward County, Department of Natural Resource Protection